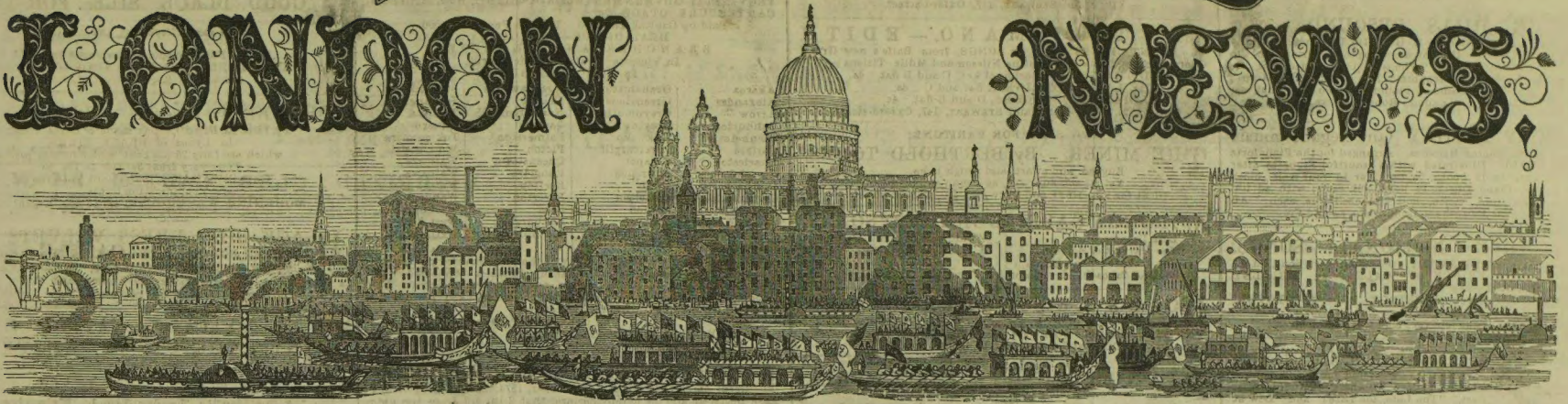


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1840.—VOL. LXV.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1874.

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT { SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.



"A BOY OF THE CAMPAGNA." BY A. BONIFAZI.

BIRTHS.

On Sept. 6, at Fort Abazail, Peshawar, the wife of Captain George MacCall, 6th Bengal Cavalry, of a daughter.

On the 2nd inst., the Countess of Belmore, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 24th inst., at All Souls' Church, Langham-place, by the Rev. John M. Freshfield, M.A., Rector, George Müller, Esq., J.P., Gravesend, to Clara, elder surviving daughter of the late C. J. Curtis, Tunbridge Wells.

On the 19th inst., at St. Andrew's, Devon, the Rev. Henry A. Cartwright, Rector of White Staunton, Somersetshire, to Henrietta S., daughter of the late Rev. William T. Elton, Rector of White Staunton.

On the 21st inst., at St. James's, Dover, Commander John W. Hotham, R.N., to Matilda A., daughter of the late Mr. Dennis Hollingworth, of Hollingworth Hall, Cheshire.

DEATHS.

On the 22nd inst., at his residence, Winterton, near Brigg, Lincolnshire, very suddenly, John Leake, formerly of Kingston, Jamaica, and of Liverpool, in the 75th year of his age.

On the 24th inst., at Pleasington Hall, Lancashire, Amelia Catherine Frances, the wife of Colonel Butler Bowdon.

On the 20th inst., at 10, Eaton-place South, Lady Green, relict of the late Vice-Admiral Sir Andrew Pellet Green, in her 80th year.

On the 18th inst., at 64, Wimpole-street, London, Pamela Elizabeth Edith, the wife of Sir Robert Walter Carden, aged 68.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 5.

SUNDAY, NOV. 29.		WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2.	
Advent Sunday.		Accession of Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria, 1848.	
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Very Rev. Dean Church; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Gregory; 7 p.m., the Rev. J. Huntington, Rector of Tenby.		Royal Agricultural Society, noon.	
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Very Rev. Dean Stanley or the Rev. Canon Troutbeck; 3 p.m., the Rev. Canon Kingsley.		Royal Horticultural Society: fruit and floral, 11 a.m.; scientific, 1 p.m.; general, 3 p.m.	
St. James's, noon, the Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.		Royal Microscopical Society, 8 p.m. (Dr. C. T. Hudson on some Male Rotifers).	
Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Rev. F. G. Maclear; 3 p.m., the Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal.		Amateur Mechanical Society, 8 p.m.	
Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen; 7 p.m., the Rev. Dr. Baker, Head Master of Merchant Taylors' School.		Geological Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. H. G. Seeley on the Fossils of a Dinosaur, from the Oxford clay of Great Grandsden; papers by Messrs. H. Hicks, J. Hopkinson, and C. Lapworth).	
Temple Church, 11 a.m., the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, Master of the Temple; 3 p.m., the Rev. Alfred Ainger, Reader at the Temple.		Obstetric Society, 8 p.m.	
French Anglican Church of St. John ("La Savoy"), Bloomsbury-street, services in French 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m., by the Rev. F. B.W. Bouvier, Incumbent.		Society of Arts, 8 p.m. (Mr. F. J. Bramwell on the Expediency of Protection of Inventions).	
Moon's last quarter, 6.29 p.m.		Pharmaceutical Society, 8 p.m. (Professor R. Godefroy on Testing Glycerine; Mr. J. B. Barnes on the Preservative Action of Chloroform).	
Day appointed by the Archbishops for intercession for foreign missions, special service at St. Paul's, 8 p.m. (the Rev. Dr. Miller, Vicar of Greenwich).		THURSDAY, DEC. 3.	
Birmingham Cattle, Poultry, Dog, and Cat Shows (four days).		Royal Caledonian Asylum, quarterly court, noon.	
Royal Society, anniversary, 4 p.m.; dinner, 7 p.m.		Dramatic Authors' Society, 2.30 p.m.	
Institute of Actuaries, 7 p.m.		Inventors' Institute, 8 p.m.	
Medical Society, 8 p.m.		Chemical Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. W. N. Hartley on the Colour of Cupric Chloride; and Mr. S. Lupton on the Formulae of the Alums).	
Royal Institute of British Architects, 8 p.m.		Linnean Society, 8 p.m. (Sir John Lubbock on Bees and Wasps; Professor Huxley on the Classification of Animals).	
Scottish Corporation, 210th annual festival (the Marquis of Huntly in the chair).		Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor Marshall on Anatomy).	
Royal Academy, 8 p.m. (Professor Barff on Chemistry).		FRIDAY, DEC. 4.	
Monday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.		Royal Archaeological Institute, 4 p.m.	
Young Men's Christian Association, Exeter Hall, 8 p.m. (the Rev. J. P. Chowne on the Bunyan Statue at Bradford).		Philological Society, 8 p.m. (Mr. J. F. Stanford on Foreign Words Imported into English).	
TUESDAY, DEC. 1.		Architectural Association, 7.30 p.m. (Mr. A. Payne on Periods of Transition in Architectural Style).	
The Princess of Wales born, 1844.		Geologists' Association, 8 p.m.	
York Fat Stock and Poultry Show (three days).		SATURDAY, DEC. 5.	
Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, 2 p.m.		Royal Horticultural Society, promenade, 2 p.m.	
London Anthropological Society, 8 p.m.		Society of Schoolmasters, 2 p.m.	
Zoological Society, 8.30 p.m. (Mr. J. Branner on New Species of Shells from N.E. Australia; Messrs. Scholer, O. Salvin, and H. Whitley on Peruvian Birds).		New Philharmonic Society, 3 p.m.	
Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 p.m. (discussion on the Pennsylvania Railroad; Mr. W. D. Clay on a New Breakwater at Aberdeen; Mr. G. L. Roff on the Port of Kustendje, Turkey).		Saturday Popular Concert, St. James's Hall, 8 p.m.	
		Swiney Lecture on Geology, by Dr. Carpenter, Birkbeck Institution, 7.30 p.m.	

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.			
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum, read at 10 a.m.	Maximum, read at 10 p.m.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
Nov. 18	30.10	51.6	48.4	90	010	42.9	55.9	WSW. W.	279	010
19	29.68	46.4	42.0	86	000	47.6	51.3	WSW. WNW.	305	113
20	29.92	42.6	35.0	77	000	40.7	47.8	WNW. NW. NNW.	107	000
21	30.12	32.3	32.3	100	000	29.7	36.3	NW.	67	000
22	30.06	30.0	30.0	100	000	27.5	33.5	NW. NNE.	70	000
23	30.10	31.3	28.9	91	1	28.1	40.7	NNE.	62	000
24	30.14	30.1	29.0	96	1	26.3	34.8	NNE.	117	055

* Dense wet fog.

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.854	29.764	29.854	30.131	30.099	30.036	30.169
Temperature of Air	53.2	49.0	44.4	32.1	29.0	28.4	28.4
Temperature of Evaporation	50.7	46.8	41.9	31.3	28.9	28.4	27.8
Direction of Wind	WSW.	WSW.	WSW.	NW.	NNE.	NNE.	NNE.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 5.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
5 35	6 2	6 28	6 57	7 27	8 0	8 32
9 8	9 8	9 8	9 8	9 8	9 8	9 8
10 18	10 18	10 18	10 18	10 18	10 18	10 18
11 7	11 7	11 7	11 7	11 7	11 7	11 7
11 40	11 40	11 40	11 40	11 40	11 40	11 40

PHOTOGRAPHY.—Anyone can take good Photographs with DUBOIS'S Patent Apparatus. No previous knowledge required. No dark room wanted. Complete and portable apparatus from £2. Book of instruction, four stamps per post.—LEICHTER, BARCE, and CO., 60, Regent-street, London.

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THE

OF THE

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WILL BE ISSUED ON

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1874,

AND WILL CONSIST OF

TWO SHEETS OF TALES

AND

ILLUSTRATIONS,

AND

TWO COLOURED PICTURES,

ENTITLED

THE SQUIRE'S DAUGHTER

AND

THE COTTER'S CHILD.

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Austria	0	8	India (via Brindisi)	1	2
Belgium	0	6	Italy	0	10
Brazil	0	6	Mexico	0	8
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THE

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TUESDAY, ENGLISH NIGHT. WEDNESDAY, CLASSICAL NIGHT.—Beethoven Night. Second Period, Dr. Hans von Bülow. ELIJAH, NEXT THURSDAY. Mr. Sims Reeves, Full Band, and 1 Royal Albert Hall Choral Society. FRIDAY, WAGNER NIGHT. SATURDAY, POPULAR NIGHT. Mr. Sims Reeves Solo Cornet, Mr. Levy. Amphitheatre, 5s.; Arena, 4s.; Balcony, 2s. 6d. 5000 Admissions at One Shilling.

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CRITERION THEATRE.—New Comic Opera by CHARLES LECOCQ.—Messrs. SPIERS and POND beg to announce that they have purchased the English right of representing Lecocq's last new Opera, LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS. This Opera was produced at the Théâtre des Variétés in Paris on Saturday, Nov. 14, where it was received with great applause and obtained high eulogiums from the press. LES PRES SAINT GERVAIS will be presented Every Evening at the CRITERION THEATRE. The original Libretto by Victorien Sardou and P. H. Gille; the English adaptation by Robert Kece. The Opera produced under the direction of Mrs. W. H. Lison. Musical Director, Mr. Stanislas. New Scenery by Messrs. Grieve and Son and Mr. Gordon. Principal Artists—Madame Pauline Rita, Miss Lillian Monte, Miss Florence Hunter, Miss Emily Thorne, Miss Lillian Adey, Messrs. A. Brimmer, Percival, Connell, Llewellyn, Hogan, Grantham, Manning. Complete Chorus and augmented Orchestra. Prices of Admission.—Private Boxes, from £1 1s to £3 3s.; Stalls, 7s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 5s.; Pit, 2s.; Amphitheatre, 1s. Doors Open at 7.30; commence at Eight. Box-Office open daily from Ten till Five.—Criterion Theatre—Spiers and Pond. Sole Proprietors.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1874.

The opening of the newly-elected Parliament at Rome by King Victor Emmanuel reminds the world that Italy has known how to work and wait. What a strange experience has been hers! Through what a long and dreary via dolorosa has she walked, barefoot and bleeding, to the crowned heights of her national aspirations! How the curses of those who contemned her have turned into blessings! How, over and over again, when the time dreamt of by her poets and yearned for by her patriots was come, fortune pressed close upon the heels of misfortune, and, while tears of grief still dimmed her eyes, threw over them unexpectedly a bright gleam of triumph. Her cruellest disasters have been the stepping stones by which she has mounted to unity and independence, and, in the midst of her gloomiest and stormiest seasons the clouds suddenly parted and the star of her destiny shone brightly through the rift. Italy is her own now. She is mistress of the heritage not very long since divided amongst and despoiled by aliens. By patiently watching, promptly seizing, and prudently using her opportunities, she has made her way into the comity of European nations, and is welcomed there. Organised as a kingdom, one and undivided, her Monarch and his subjects have readily adapted themselves to constitutional ways, and the policy she pursues, and the spirit in which she pursues it, may fairly challenge the respect of surrounding nations.

The Italian Parliament assembled at Rome on Monday last. It was opened by the King in person, whose presence wherever he showed himself was rapturously hailed by his subjects, and whose speech, it may be hoped, will be a fitting preface to a fruitful Session. It is suffused with grateful sentiment, but is nevertheless marked by great sobriety of tone. The time for reviewing a romantic past is gone by—the time for concentrating attention on present duties is come. Circumstances favour the energetic prosecution of a programme of public policy more strongly characterised by usefulness than by brilliancy. The Governments of neighbouring States are, without exception, friendly—"a recompense," said his Majesty, "of the firmness and moderation of the Italian people." Italy has nothing to apprehend from foreign interference, nor does she herself meditate any ambitious designs which need excite external uneasiness. Parliament has already made some progress in consolidating the institutions of the young kingdom, has ameliorated some evils which beset its path, and has witnessed the softening down, in part, of the provincial jealousies which impeded her onward course, and of the bitter party spirit which distracted her councils. She has been blessed this year with an abundant harvest, and every motive which can encourage her Legislature to unflinching and honest work for her advantage is in full force. Unquestionably, she needs the skilful and fostering care of vigilant and enlightened statesmanship. Something, as we have said, has been done towards the development of her rich physical and moral resources, but much more remains to be done. The Royal Speech specifies, as amongst the measures to be submitted by his Ministry to Parliament during the current Session, bills embodying a new penal code, others for the reorganisation of certain taxes, a law upon commercial companies, and one for guaranteeing public safety in certain provinces.

The two subjects likely this Session to stand out in strongest relief from all others will be finance and brigandage. Both of them are importunate. The King says:—"Meanwhile, we must only incur expenses of evident urgency, and, when authorising them, at the same time provide the means of meeting them. Thus it will become possible to establish a financial equilibrium, and lighten the sacrifices nobly and courageously borne by the people." The successive Governments of the kingdom have not been altogether inattentive to its financial state and prospects, but have not been distinguished by the skill or the firmness of their administration in this important department of their work. Neither in their choice of the modes of taxation, nor in the equal distribution of it over the country, nor in their impartial collection of what should have been its proceeds, have they given any striking proofs of a genius for successful financiering. Annual deficits have followed one another with alarming regularity, and, but for the not always economical sale of secularised Church property, might have culminated in national bankruptcy. It cannot be denied that the state of things requiring to be

dealt with presented an unusual alternation of difficulties, some of them political, others of them social, and others again purely economical. Some were the fruit of provincial tradition, and others—and perhaps not the least formidable—were created by Parliamentary factions. Signor Minghetti came into office fully cognisant of the magnitude of the task which lay before him, and seems to have braced himself up to grapple with the growing peril in a manful spirit. Under a pledge to this effect he counselled the late appeal to the country, and if the statement be substantially correct that a majority of fifty in support of the Ministerial policy has been returned, there is solid ground for hope that his adherents, fresh from contact with their respective constituencies, will enable him to fulfil his mission.

But financial embarrassment is not the only public ailment which weakens and humiliates the southern peninsula. The island of Sicily and some of the nethermost provinces of the mainland are infested with an organised system of brigandage. Concerning this the information accessible to us is, as might readily be supposed, but scanty, and not, perhaps, entirely trustworthy. We gather from it, however, such as it is, that brigandage, where it exists in Italy, exhibits some of the main features which used to distinguish the freebooting proclivities of certain Highland clans in Rob Roy's time. Probably it is not held together by similar ties of family consanguinity; but it is clear that its baneful power, the terror under the shadow of which it works its will, and the extent to which it pushes its fibres into all the weak places of society, closely resemble what is now familiar to us as the imposition of black mail. Now and then we hear of a wealthy victim being suddenly pounced upon, carried off, and ransomed, or, that failing, murdered. But it is not on these occasional excesses that brigandage thrives. It extorts tribute from landowners, whom the law is too short-handed to protect. It imposes secrecy, it frustrates evidence, it avenges all exposure of the wrongs it inflicts, by means of the fearful penalties which it is supposed to be capable of enforcing. It is a cancer eating into the penetralia of the social body, wasting its natural vigour and exhausting its vitality. Industry is paralysed by it. It strangles legitimate enterprise at its birth. No wonder that Signor Minghetti has resolved upon extirpating it, if possible, wherever it is known to have established itself in the kingdom of Italy. He has given some proofs of his earnestness, and all who are interested in the progress of civilisation will heartily wish that, with the co-operation of the new Parliament, he may, at any rate, pave the way to ultimate success. Brigandage is not to be put down by soldiers. It is the outcome of a long prevalence of misgovernment. Its roots can only be killed by wise administration.

Such as we have attempted to sketch them are the two pressing evils for which Victor Emmanuel's Government undertakes to devise adequate remedies. They are alluded to as matters of some moment in the Speech from the Throne. In the subsequent handling of them by Parliament it will be found, we suspect, that a large demand will be made, not only upon the intellectual ability, but upon the patriotism, of both the Houses of Legislature.

THE COURT.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, arrived at Windsor Castle at nine o'clock on Saturday morning last from Balmoral Castle. Princess Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Henry White, M.A., Chaplain of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, officiated.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, came to London on Monday in order to stand sponsor at the christening of the son of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. Her Majesty travelled by special train on the Great Western Railway to Paddington, and drove thence, escorted by a detachment of the 2nd Life Guards, to Buckingham Palace, where she was received by the Duke of Edinburgh, who escorted the Queen to the apartments of the Duchess of Edinburgh, after which her Majesty visited the Empress of Russia. The Queen took leave of her Imperial Majesty in the afternoon, and, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, left the palace shortly after five o'clock, escorted by a detachment of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), and drove to Paddington, returning thence to Windsor.

Her Majesty has taken her usual daily out-of-door exercise. Prince Leopold, we regret to state, has been again suffering from severe indisposition, which has confined him to his residence at Oxford.

The Marchioness of Ely has left the castle. The Duchess Dowager of Athole has succeeded the Countess of Erroll as Lady in Waiting, and the Hon. Mary Lascelles and the Hon. Frances Drummond have arrived at the castle as Maids of Honour in Waiting to the Queen. Viscount Hawarden and Lieutenant-General Sir Francis Seymour, Bart., have succeeded the Earl of Roden and Mr. Donald Cameron, of Lochiel, as Lord and Groom in Waiting, and Colonel J. C. McNeill is the Equerry in Waiting to her Majesty. The Countess of Erroll has remained at the castle on a visit. The Hon. Mary Pitt and the Hon. Mortimer Sackville West have left the castle.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales gave a county ball at Sandringham House, yesterday week, in commemoration of the Prince's birthday, at which were present the guests staying in the house, which included the Duke of Cambridge, Prince and Princess Belozersky, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke, M. and Madame Koutouzov-Tolstoy, Count de St. Priest, Count Hallex-Claparède, Earl de Grey, Lord Carington, Captain the Hon. Olive Montagu, Mr. W. Trafford, and M. Zichy, as well as the members of the principal families of the neighbourhood. Coote and Tinney's band was in attendance, under the direction of Mr. Coote. Most of the visitors who had been staying at Sandringham took their departure on Saturday. The Prince and Princess, with Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales, attended Divine service on Sunday at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, in the park. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Rev. A. A.

Bridgwater, Curate of Snettisham, Norfolk, officiated. The Prince and Princess came to London on Monday, and were present at the Royal christening at Buckingham Palace. In the evening the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Connaught, the Czarewitch, and the Grand Duke Alexis, went to the Prince of Wales's Theatre.

The Prince and Princess, after taking leave of the Empress of Russia at Charing-cross station, on Tuesday, left Marlborough House on a visit to Earl and Countess Cowper, at Panshanger, where they have passed the week.

DEPARTURE OF THE EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

The Empress of Russia, with the Czarewitch, the Grand Duke Alexis, and the Duke of Edinburgh, left Buckingham Palace on Tuesday morning, shortly after eight o'clock, for Charing-cross station, where her Imperial Majesty was met by the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, and the Duke of Cambridge. Their Royal Highnesses took leave of the Empress and the Grand Dukes, who left by special train for Dover, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, Earl Sydney being in attendance. The Empress was received at Dover by the chief naval and military authorities, the whole of the troops in garrison being drawn up on the Admiralty Pier and Royal salutes fired. Her Imperial Majesty was conducted on board the Russian Imperial yacht Standardt, where she took leave of the Duke of Edinburgh, and the yacht crossed to Calais, whence the Empress proceeded to Paris, en route for the south. The Duke of Edinburgh returned to town. Her Imperial Majesty, previous to her departure, made presents to numerous officials.

ROYAL CHRISTENING.

The baptism of the first child of the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, grandson of the Queen and of the Prince Consort, took place on Monday at Buckingham Palace, in the presence of the following Royal and Imperial personages:—The Queen, the Empress of Russia, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, Princess Beatrice, the Czarewitch, the Grand Duke Alexis, the Duke of Cambridge, K.G., Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and Prince Louis of Battenburg. The Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and Count Gleichen were invited to the ceremony, but were prevented by unavoidable causes from attending. The Russian Ambassador and the Earl of Derby were present. The Right Hon. B. Disraeli was invited to the ceremony, but was prevented by indisposition from attending. The clergy officiating were:—The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Dean of Windsor, the Dean of Westminster, and the Rev. W. L. Onslow, M.A. There were also present the Lord Chamberlain, the Duchess of Wellington, the ladies and gentlemen in waiting on the Queen, and various great officers of state, the suite in attendance on the Empress of Russia, and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting on the other Royal and Imperial personages. The christening was performed in the lower Bow-Room in the palace.

The sponsors for the Prince were:—The Queen, the Emperor of Russia, K.G. (represented by the Czarewitch), the Emperor of Germany (represented by the Duke of Connaught); the Prince of Wales, the Imperial Crown Princess of Germany (represented by Princess Christian), and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha (represented by Prince Christian).

When the Royal family were seated the Lord Chamberlain conducted the infant Prince into the Bow-Room, his Royal Highness being carried by the head nurse and attended by Lady-Emma Osborne, Lady in Waiting to the Duchess of Edinburgh. The infant having been placed in the arms of the Queen, and the Archbishop calling upon the sponsors to name the child, the Queen answered, "Alfred Alexander William Ernest Albert;" and his Grace baptised the child in those names. The infant was attired in a mantle, gown, and cap of Honiton lace—being the same dress in which all the Queen's children and those of the Prince and Princess of Wales were christened. After the ceremony the Queen, the Empress, and the other members of the Royal and Imperial families proceeded to the room designated as the "44 Room," where luncheon was served, the other distinguished guests partaking of luncheon in the Picture Gallery. During the luncheon the Comptroller of the Household (in the absence of the Lord Steward) gave the following toasts:—"His Royal Highness Prince Alfred of Edinburgh," "The Queen," "The Emperor and Empress of Russia," "The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh." After luncheon the invited guests assembled in the Green Drawing-room, to which the Queen was conducted by the Lord Chamberlain.

His Excellency the Russian Ambassador, Count Schouvaloff, was presented to the Queen by the Czarewitch.

Her Majesty wore a black satin dress, two rows of large pearls with a diamond cross attached to them, and the order of Victoria and Albert.

The Princess of Wales wore a dress of crimson satin, with polonaise of crimson relief trimmed with fur, with the Victoria and Albert order.

The Duchess of Edinburgh wore a petticoat of rich pale pink corded silk, trimmed with plaitings of the same, and a tunic of pale pink crêpe de chine, with rich lace and feather trimmings; ruby earrings and necklace, with pearl and diamond pendant brooch, and the Victoria and Albert order.

Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein wore a maroon velvet dress, trimmed with fur; ornaments of pearls and diamonds, with the Victoria and Albert order.

Princess Beatrice wore a blue silk dress, trimmed with blue velvet; ornaments of pearls, and the Victoria and Albert order.

Morning dress was worn by the ladies present. Evening coat with morning trousers, and orders and decorations, by the gentlemen.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited the establishment of Messrs. Kirkman and Co., in Soho-square, on Saturday last, to inspect a new invention by Signor Caldera, of which they are patentees, for sustaining sounds on the pianoforte. His Royal Highness, with his guests, the Czarewitch and the Grand Duke Alexis, dined with the Russian Ambassador at the Russian Embassy. The Grand Dukes, before their departure, visited the British and South Kensington Museums, the Royal United Service Institution, several of the great commercial establishments of the metropolis, and also the Strand, the Globe, and the Charing-cross Theatres.

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, with Prince Alfred of Edinburgh, left Buckingham Palace on Wednesday for Eastwell Park, Kent. At Ashford they were received with a cordial welcome.

The Duchess has accepted an album of water-colour studies by Edinburgh artists, prepared as a marriage gift from the ladies of Edinburgh.

Prince and Princess Christian returned to Cumberland Lodge on Saturday last from visiting the Marquis and Marchioness of Hertford, at Ragley Hall, Warwickshire. The Princess presided, on Tuesday, at a meeting of the council of the School of Art-Needlework, held at Alford House.



H.M.S. CHALLENGER'S SCIENTIFIC OCEAN SURVEYING EXPEDITION.



OFF CAPE CHALLENGER, THE MOST SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF KERGUELEN ISLAND.



AMONG THE ICEBERGS OF THE ANTARCTIC.

The Extra Supplement.

"SEAWEED GATHERERS."

This picture, by Mr. E. Duncan, is in the national collection at South Kensington. It represents a scene of common occurrence on the shores of the Channel Islands and the coast of Brittany, where large quantities of seaweed, called vrank, are collected for the sake of its valuable alkali. The loaded waggon, to which are yoked a pair of oxen, bowing their patient necks under the heavy wooden beam, will presently start upon its way, across the slippery sands, amongst the scattered rocks, to the adjacent road on terra firma; and the packhorses will likewise have received their burden. Women and men, too, with their baskets and bundles carried on the back or hugged in arms, will tramp sturdily to the neighbouring village. These are among the "Toilers of the Sea," celebrated by Victor Hugo's romantic imagination; but in reality they are as good, honest, hard-working folk as any that look upon the waves of the Atlantic from the shores of Western Europe.

"A BOY OF THE CAMPAGNA."

The extensive tract of open pasture-land that surrounds the city of Rome, stretching many miles on each side, towards the Apennines, towards the sea, towards the green hills of Albano and Frascati, and towards the peak of Mount Soracte in the north, is unlike the neighbourhood of any other great city. It has no towns, villages, or even hamlets, but here and there a few huts for the shepherds who dwell there in the season of their yearly employment, coming down from their Sabine homes. A young peasant of this class is the subject of M. Bonifazi's picture in the exhibition at the New British Institution. The artist has done his best for this pretty boy; yet it would have been kinder to have washed him, cut his hair, and put clean clothes upon him, and then to have delivered him to the Roman School Board. It is true that Beppo or Pippino would have become a less picturesque figure by this civilising treatment; but he might have been reared to be a good citizen of Italy, a good subject of King Victor Emmanuel, and a good member of the Holy Catholic Church, whose head-quarters are in the neighbouring capital city.

THE CENTRAL TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

The Central Electric Telegraph Establishment at the General Post Office is one of the most admirable results of administrative organisation for business, and of science applied by an apparatus of exquisite precision to the needs of social life. We have great pleasure in setting before our readers a few illustrations of the machinery and the methods here employed for the most rapid transmission of intelligence between all parts of the United Kingdom, and for its communication, also, to the submarine and foreign lines. Before attempting to explain the subjects which our Artist has drawn, we would thank the official gentlemen of this department—especially Mr. H. C. Fischer, the controller—for the opportunity lately granted us of making a personal examination. It would be superfluous to comment or to congratulate any of them upon the beautiful order and wonderful efficiency with which everything there is arranged and conducted.

The large and handsome new building in St. Martin's-le-grand, at the corner of Newgate-street, facing the old building of the General Post Office, was shown in an illustration we gave some time ago. Its upper portion is occupied by the collective staff and instruments of the Central Telegraph Station, removed in January last, but with great additions, from their old quarters in a lane off Moorgate-street, near the Bank of England. There are 1240 instrument clerks, of whom 740 are females, and there are about 270 messengers. This does not include the engineering staff, or that of the Controller. Between five and six hundred instruments are here kept at work, and the wires therewith connected within and beneath the building have an aggregate length of nearly three hundred miles. Besides this electric apparatus there are twenty-six lines of pneumatic tube, with air-pumps worked by three powerful steam-engines, for conveying messages bodily, by means of atmospheric power, between the principal City offices and the West Strand office, opposite Charing-cross Station, and the Central Telegraph Office.

It seems natural, in the first place, before we examine the instruments and their use, to look at the source of the electric fluid which constitutes their power. This is supplied by the galvanic apparatus in the battery-room, on the ground floor of the building. Here are many cupboards with shelves, upon which stand rows of earthenware jars, called Daniell's battery cells. Each contains a roll or hollow cylinder of copper, immersed in a solution of sulphate of copper, and an inner bath of sulphuric acid, with pieces of zinc or spelter. Several cells are usually joined to work together, the number being greater or less, for the generation of a more or less powerful current. This will depend on the distance to be traversed, the amount of work to be performed, and the season or the weather. As many as forty cells may be in joint use for a Liverpool message, or sixty for one to Edinburgh; but there is more "leakage" at some times than at others. The square boxes or jars, which yield a larger amount of electric force than the round ones, are employed for the Wheatstone instruments, as these, we shall presently see, convey many more words in a minute. The engineer's foreman, who has charge of the Battery Room, informed our reporter that the contents of an ordinary cell would be decomposed, by constant working, in one week. But the material is not lost; the copper, when again restored by an easy process to the condition of solid metal, is of extreme purity, and is readily purchased by the manufacturers of telegraph wire. All wires are supplied to Government by contract, but the copper and zinc battery-plates come from a Government manufactory in Gloucester-road, Camden Town. The wires used here are copper, sheathed in gutta-percha. For the electric transmission of time signals, which require a very powerful single shock, not a long-continued stream of force, a special battery is used. This is the Le Clanché battery, formed by placing rolls of carbon, instead of copper, with smaller fragments of carbon, between the solution of peroxide of manganese, in the inner cell, and that of chloride of ammonia, in the outer cell. The Battery Room contains, in all, 23,000 cells, but many of these are worked in sets or groups, more or less numerous, connected with the same wire. There are, as we understood, about one thousand separate batteries here. The efficiency of any one of them can be tested in a moment, by the superintendent in the instrument-gallery above.

To this gallery, on the third floor, we now ascend by the wide staircase, enjoying, by the way, the ample provision for clear light and fresh air, and the cheerful aspect of the whole interior. The instruments, of various kinds and uses, occupy a great central hall with four wings, one at each corner. These it will be convenient to mention as the north-east and south-east, the north-west and south-west galleries. The north-west

gallery is for messages to and from Scotland, the north of England, and Ireland. The south-west is partly devoted to newspaper despatches and reports, and to the special "racing circuits;" the extra force of spare instruments, on Wheatstone's automatic system, is placed here, for use on particular occasions. The two eastern galleries are mainly occupied by the metropolitan telegraphs. They contain 263 instruments, of which 21 are duplex, 101 Morse printers, and 100 single needles. The central hall contains the instruments which are connected with the different provincial circuits of England. The provincial telegraph business employs 205 instruments at the Central Office; and of these 57 are Wheatstone's automatic, 20 are duplex, 7 are Hughes's type-printers, and 97 are Morse printers. But on the south side of the central hall are the pneumatic despatch-tubes for sending telegrams bodily, through an underground tube, to or from the more important London offices. On the west side is a tall and wide frame, called the test box, exhibiting in its front a great number of metal knobs and wires; these afford means of establishing an electric communication with any station throughout the kingdom. They derive their power from 4000 cells in the Battery-Room. The battery test box, above referred to, and the sympathetic clock, with the chronifer, or regulator of clocks, are situated also here, between the two western galleries. The total floor space is 20,000 square feet; the mahogany desk space extends in length three quarters of a mile. Mr. H. Eaton, as superintending engineer, is in charge of all the instruments on this floor. We are indebted to one of his staff, Mr. T. Hill, for much assistance in preparing this account.

It is a cheerful scene of orderly industry, and it is, of course, not the less pleasing because the majority of the persons sitting here are young women, looking brisk and happy, not to say pretty, and certainly quite at home. Each has her own instrument on the desk before her. She is either just now actually busied in working off or in reading some message, or else, for the moment, she awaits the signal, from a distant station, to announce a message for her reception. Boys move here and there about the galleries, with the forms of telegrams which have been received in one part of the instrument-room, and which have to be signalled from another, but which have first to be conveyed, for record, to the nearest of the check-tables and sorting-tables in the centre. Short pneumatic tubes facilitate the distribution and collection of papers in this building. The total number of messages daily received or sent at this Central Office is from 26,000 to 30,000. But of these a very large part, 17,000 or 18,000, are transmitted through the central office from other offices, and have to be repeated and forwarded; so that, in each case, there is the work both of receiving and despatching, though each is counted but as a single message. In addition to the number above stated, newspaper telegrams and reports, often lengthy, are sent through this office, more especially during the night. The female instrument-clerks do not remain for the night work, and their labour does not exceed eight hours a day, with half an hour allowed for dinner, which is comfortably provided for them in their own dining-hall. Five or six thousand of the day's messages are transmitted to or from the Anglo-American, the Eastern, the Northern, the Indo-European, the Submarine, and other foreign lines. Three thousand a day, on the average, are messages within the London district. The markets, the Stock Exchange, the races that may be going on, and other business of the day, communicated at once to all the chief towns in the United Kingdom, give some hours' employment to many instruments in the morning and afternoon, besides all sorts of private messages. In the night work of newspaper reporting, which begins at eight o'clock in the evening and continues two or three hours after midnight for the morning papers, 200,000 or 300,000 words are not unfrequently telegraphed to the provincial press. The heaviest task of newspaper-reporting telegraphy yet done was on a Budget night in Parliament, to the amount of 427,000 words. Let us now inspect, more particularly, the working of the instruments.

These are of several classes and of different capacities; but those working slower than others are made useful for the lines upon which there is not so much business to do. The general operation of the electric telegraph, as some of our readers must be aware, has been greatly improved, since its first invention, with regard to its action at the receiving end of the line. Instead of merely causing certain vibrations of an index hand upon a dial, it impresses certain marks upon a narrow slip or ribbon of paper which passes through the receiving instrument while the message is being delivered. These marks, in the Morse system, which is the one most used, consist of a dash and a dot, or rather a very short dash, and nothing more. With four or five marks of those two kinds, in a variety of combinations, all the letters of the alphabet are distinctly represented. The first four letters, for example, are rendered as follow:—

a . — b . . . c . — . . . d . . .

The flow of electric force is necessarily interrupted, in the operation of the sending instrument, at every instant when the positive and negative currents in that instrument are parted, which is done by a simple mechanism obedient to the sender's finger-touch. Its longer or shorter runs and breaks are necessarily recorded on the paper at the receiving end of the line. This record appears in the form, above shown, of extremely short lines, reckoned as dots, mixed with lines three times as long. The Wheatstone automatic signalling apparatus preserves this relative proportion with mathematical accuracy, by means of the mechanically-punched holes in the paper, which is passed through the transmitting instrument. But a clerk, after a little experience, is able to manipulate the dots and dashes nearly as accurately by hand. It is thus, by the arrangement of these dots and dashes, possible to convey an equivalent for every ordinary letter of the alphabet.

We now ask the reader to look at the illustrations which fill another page. The "single-needle" instrument, shown in one of the upper corners, does not write the message by Morse's dot-and-dash alphabet on a paper ribbon; but it unfolds, by means of the deflection of its needle, from right to left and left to right, the messages as they are sent, letter by letter. Although there is no paper ribbon to record any marks, in the case of the single-needle instrument, the same series of signals is used here as with the Morse printer; a beat of the needle to the right being equal to a dash, and a beat to the left being the same as a dot, on the Morse paper. A clerk, therefore, who understands one class of instruments can very readily acquire the working of the other. The single-needle instrument is not so liable to get out of repair as those of more complicated structure. It is therefore in use at most of the small country stations.

The old "double-needle" instrument, in a case shaped like a cottage with a gable roof, appears in the opposite corner of the page. There are but two of this construction at the Central Office; and one is kept specially for the convenience of the clerk in charge of her Majesty's telegraph at Buckingham Palace,

who has always been accustomed to this system. The other renders service to the Secretary's Department.

A very superior instrument is Wheatstone's Automatic, our illustration of which is found between the Single Needle and the Double Needle. It can send 120 words in a minute, instead of thirty or forty, as in the ordinary instruments upon Morse's system. It has also this advantage, that the letters it forms are not transmitted manually, but, as its name implies, automatically, by means of certain perforations, made beforehand, in a transmitting slip of paper, which can be made and used in multiple; so that a number of these instruments, each fed with its prepared slip, may simultaneously dispatch the same message. This is excellent for Press messages from London, sent to about twenty different provincial newspapers at the same time. The means are not difficult to understand. The instrument has two pins or styles, each thrusting upwards with very slight force. The one is connected with the positive, the other with the negative current, of electric action. The paper travels above their points so as to let them describe two parallel lines, a quarter of an inch apart. Corresponding exactly with these lines are two rows of little holes in the paper. But the two lines of holes, through which alone the little points can rise to a contact with the metallic conductor of electricity above, so as to complete the circuit requisite for electric action, are not continuous and uniform. The holes in a line stand at a varying interval from each other. So the effect is, that wherever the positive current, flowing upwards by the pin raised through a hole in the upper row, does not meet the negative current rising through an opposite hole in the lower row, there is a prolonged impression or dash on the paper in the receiving instrument a hundred miles distant. The speed of Wheatstone's instrument can be regulated by fixing a lever, without any further trouble.

The function of expressly preparing for this admirable telegraph instrument those perforated papers which we have described is well performed by a mechanical worker, named the pneumatic puncher. This machine is worked by that atmospheric power, from the tubes and air-pumps in the basement, which conveys the despatches and records that are written on paper. The person using it, when he has put in the paper ribbon to be perforated, reads the message to be sent, letter by letter, and plays on three keys, which set the punches or perforators in motion, as the paper glides over them, so as to produce the requisite arrangement of holes.

Hughes's type-printing instrument, as its name would denote, is one which actually inscribes on the paper at the other end of the line the capital letters of the ordinary printed alphabet, in a bold Roman type. It is very good for sending messages in foreign languages, and is therefore much used by the Submarine Telegraph Company. This instrument looks rather like a small pianoforte, with black and white keys, each of the keys when fingered producing a certain letter. The player is here seen, with his message in writing put before him, which he spells out upon the key-board.

The two instruments which are represented in working at the bottom of the page are Morse's direct writer and the A B C instrument. The former is the class of instruments most generally in use, both in the Postal Telegraph system in England, and also on the Continent, and in America. It is this class of instruments which has enabled electricians, by introducing duplex working (that is, working a wire in both directions simultaneously) practically to double the wire accommodation between the larger towns.

The A B C instrument is one of easy and familiar use for private telegraphs; it presents a circle of knobs, corresponding with the letters of the alphabet, which are to be pressed with the finger, as desired, after turning a handle. The raised dial opposite the lady sitting at this instrument is encircled by the letters of the alphabet, as the dial of a clock is by figures; and, each time that a stop at the distant end is pressed down, the hand fixed on the dial flies round, and stops at the letter indicated by the pressed stop far away. This sort of instrument is used in merchants' counting-houses, at clubs, newspaper offices, and some private houses; it is placed, too, at every station of the London Fire Brigade.

The Souder, a recent American invention, gives each letter of the alphabet by a certain combination of more or less emphatic clicks, instead of those formed of dashes and dots in the telegraphic writing system. It has the disadvantage, with respect to official responsibility, of not delivering a printed record, as in the Morse slips, of the message which has been conveyed. At country stations it is more in use.

We shall give some further illustrations next week, and defer till then a description of the remaining features of interest in the Central Telegraph Establishment, St. Martin's-le-grand, London.

THE CRUISE OF THE CHALLENGER.

The reports we get, from time to time, of the voyage of H. M. S. Challenger, with the expedition of scientific men to examine the depths of the ocean in Southern latitudes, continue to be satisfactory. After two months' stoppage at Sydney, to refit the ship and recruit the company, which had become needful from their rough Antarctic experience, they left the shores of Australia on June 8, and passed round New Zealand, arriving at Wellington on the 20th. The tour of the South Sea Islands, with a stoppage of sixteen days at Fiji, occupied the next two months. On Sept. 1 the Challenger was in Torres Strait, north of Australia, and would proceed to Hong-Kong. A correspondent on board the ship has sent us the views of the northern promontory of Kerguelen Island, and of the icebergs in the Antarctic Ocean, where the Challenger passed in February. Kerguelen, an island ninety miles long and forty-five miles broad, is situated between the 48th and 50th degrees of south latitude, and about the 69th or 70th of east longitude, which is nearly south of Bombay, and half way between the Atlantic and Pacific. It is one of the stations for the observation of the transit of Venus.

The German Emperor has conferred on Dr. Samuel Birch, of the British Museum, the Order of the Crown, second class, in recognition of his presidency of the late International Congress of Orientalists.

The Board of Trade inquiry at Liverpool concerning the loss of the vessel *Merrie Monarch*, by striking on a coral reef near Madagascar, has resulted in the suspension, for two years, of Captain Wren's certificate. The captain was 1200 miles out of his reckoning when his ship struck.

The Old Water Colour Society will not open their winter exhibition in December as usual, in consequence of the interruption occasioned by the construction of a new front to the entrance of their gallery in Pall-mall. The exhibition will open on Jan. 4. The winter exhibition of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours will take place at the customary time, the opening being a fortnight hence. Miss Elizabeth Thompson, the painter of the "Roll Call," has been recently elected a member of the Institute. The winter exhibition of the Society of British Artists will open on Monday next.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Nov. 26.

Last Friday completed the first year of the Septennate, and found matters progressing more favourably than many would have dared to anticipate a twelvemonth back. It is true that there are people who profess to live in hourly dread of some kind of outbreak; but the majority appear disposed to rest and be thankful, and to let all battles be fought out in the Assembly. The anniversary of Marshal MacMahon's accession to power was celebrated by a dinner and reception at the Elysée, and the general opinion expressed at this gathering was that all was going on well. Such seems to be the case, and the rumours which have been set in circulation respecting the approaching resignation of several members of the Cabinet may, for the present, be treated as mere canards. The Ministry will remain unchanged till the commencement of next year, since on the meeting of the Assembly pure business will be taken up, and all constitutional questions shelved till after the Christmas recess. There is little doubt, however, that M. de Cumont, the Minister of Public Instruction, will have to tender his resignation. His conduct towards the Protestant Consistories has been censured, and now he has been guilty of one of the blunders which are worse than crimes in the eyes of Frenchmen. He bestowed the cross of the Legion of Honour upon his private secretary, M. Chauffard, a young man of four-and-twenty, the son of the professor whose lectures were the pretext for the recent riots at the School of Medicine, to the disappointment of many older, and perhaps better-qualified, aspirants to the possession of that much-coveted decoration. The friends of these gentlemen, and notably those of M. Albert Desjardins, Under-Secretary of State to the Minister, have made common cause against the latter, and his position is scarcely enviable. M. Chauffard, jun., has had to resign his post.

Meanwhile, the armies who are to contend upon the battle-ground of the Versailles theatre are busily mustering their forces, and almost all the deputies have arrived. Some fifty deputies of the Left met last evening, under the presidency of M. Jules Simon, to consider the expediency of addressing an interpellation to the Government with regard to the conduct of affairs during the recess. The project was favourably received, and the terms of the interpellation will be settled at a meeting on Sunday. The Right Centre meet under the presidency of the Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier to-morrow. The Bonapartists are waiting till the affair of the committee for an appeal to the people, respecting which MM. Rouher, Casabianca, and Grandperret have been summoned before a juge d'instruction, is concluded. Rumours are afloat to the effect that the action of the Legitimists will greatly depend upon a manifesto now in course of preparation by the Comte de Chambord.

M. Louis Blanc has published a lengthy reply to M. Christophle, arguing that it is preposterous to proclaim a Republic which already exists, and that nothing can come of coalitions of the various parties in the Assembly.

M. Thiers reached Paris on Tuesday morning, having travelled from Nice by way of Marseilles, at which last-named place he held a kind of levée at the railway station.

M. Clément Duvernois has received a heavy sentence for his connection with the Territorial Bank of Spain—namely, two years' imprisonment and 1000*fr.* fine. He will have to undergo the same treatment as ordinary criminals and to wear a prison dress, a terrible degradation for an ex-Minister. Jauret, one of his accomplices, was sentenced to one year's imprisonment, with a fine of 500*fr.*; and Caperon and Rossetti, who are still at large, were condemned, *par contumace*, to five years' imprisonment and 3000*fr.* fine. A man of equal political notoriety as M. Duvernois—namely, Blanqui, the veteran conspirator, who has passed almost the whole of his life in prison—is reported to be dying in solitary confinement.

The municipal elections have passed off quietly enough. In the larger towns, such as Lyons, Marseilles, Rouen, Havre, and Bordeaux, the Radicals have carried all before them. At Rennes M. Grivart, the Minister of Commerce, who had come forward as a Conservative Republican, was defeated by a combination of Legitimists and Radicals. The advanced Republican organs are very jubilant over their success; but those representing the moderate party lay all the blame upon the apathy shown by the leading Conservatives, who neglected to bring forward candidates, and upon their followers who did not take the trouble to vote.

So far as Paris is concerned, the event of the week has been the terrible explosion which took place last Thursday at St. Denis—of which you will doubtless give an engraving.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel opened the Parliament on Monday. His Majesty, accompanied by Prince Humbert, the Duke d'Aosta, and the principal civil and military officers of his household, left the palace of the Quirinal for the Chamber at eleven o'clock. The route was kept by the troops of the garrison and the National Guard. The King was warmly cheered by the people on his way, and by the senators and deputies on reaching the Parliament.

In the Speech from the Throne his Majesty expressed his gratitude to the people for the proofs of affection they had given him on the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession. He hoped the new Legislature would pursue the work of reorganisation begun by its predecessor. After referring to various measures that would be introduced, he said that fresh expenses must only be incurred when urgently necessary, and the means for meeting them must at the same time be provided. In this way it would become possible to establish a financial equilibrium, and to lighten the burdens of the people. In conclusion, his Majesty expressed his solicitude for the poorer classes of the population, and his gratitude to God for the abundant harvest of the present year.

The King was frequently interrupted by applause.

SPAIN.

The Carlists are again active. There was fighting on Monday between the Republican and Carlist troops. The latter had seized the road between San Sebastian and Irun, and occupied the line of Ayarzun. Early on Wednesday morning three battalions of Carlists surprised the Republicans posted at San Marcial. The arrival of reinforcements from Irun saved the Republican troops from defeat. Marshal Serrano is about to proceed to the north of Spain, in order to hasten the operations against the Carlists. Meanwhile a decree has been issued by the Spanish Government forbidding the publication, or transmission by telegraph, of any war news except that which appears in the official gazette.

Great rigour is being, it is said, displayed by the Government against the partisans of Prince Alfonso, son of Queen Isabella. Several of them have been exiled, and thirty others are to be similarly treated.

GERMANY.

Prince Gortschakoff had another long interview with Prince Bismarck on Thursday week, and afterwards left for St. Peters-

burg. Before he quitted Berlin he expressed his confidence that peace will be preserved for many years to come.

Herr von Forckenbeck has been unanimously re-elected President of the German Parliament. On Saturday Prince Bismarck, in reply to a motion proposing the release of several social Democrats, and a charge that arrests had been of frequent occurrence, even an ambassador not having been safe from them, maintained that the arrests had been legally made. He complained that a tendency to oppose the laws was creeping into those grades of society whose chief duty it was to maintain them. On a vote, only the mover and seconder supported the motion. The debate on the judicial bills began on Tuesday. The bills were supported by the Prussian, the Wurtemberg, and the Bavarian Ministers of Justice. Dr. Lasker, in opposing that measure which related to the organisation of the tribunals, demanded that unlimited publicity be given to the judicial proceedings. In Wednesday's sitting it was resolved that the bill for the organisation of the tribunals should be referred to a committee. The Bavarian Minister of Justice stated in the course of the debate that his Government, while in favour of the establishment of a Supreme Imperial Court, could not do without a High Court of Appeal of its own. This would not, however, in any way prejudice Imperial interests.

AUSTRIA.

Archduke Karl Ferdinand of Austria died at Selowitz, on Friday week, at the age of fifty-six.

In the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath, on Tuesday, the Minister of Commerce announced that the Government would spend about fifty millions of florins upon railway works next year. A larger grant would, he said, be inadvisable at present. In 1876 the construction of one hundred German miles of railway would be undertaken.

RUSSIA.

In consequence of indisposition, the Emperor has postponed his journey to St. Petersburg from Livadia till the beginning of next month.

It is announced from St. Petersburg that the Budget for 1875 will show a larger surplus than was expected.

Disturbances have broken out in the principal schools of St. Petersburg, in consequence of the unpopularity of a professor, who has therefore been prohibited by the Government from appearing at the University.

Continuing to harass the Russians, civil as well as military, the Turcoman marauders have attacked a village on the Caspian, have killed eighty men, and have carried away nearly double that number of women and children into slavery.

INDIA.

Lord Northbrook, according to a Calcutta telegram of the *Times*, has gone to Behar to consider the irrigation scheme. The Bengal Government proposes a very costly scheme.

The news already published of the imprisonment of Yakob Khan at Cabul, by his father, Shere Ali, the Ameer of Afghanistan, whom he was visiting, is confirmed. The statement that the visit of Yakob Khan to Shere Ali was instigated by Lord Northbrook is authoritatively said to be without foundation.

AUSTRALIA.

The Colonial Treasurer of New South Wales has made his financial statement in the Legislative Assembly. The year 1873 closed with a surplus of £720,000. The revenue for 1874 is estimated at £3,457,000, which will give a surplus over expenditure of £694,000. The Treasury proposes that £240,000 shall be appropriated to the fund for the extinction of the public debt. No alteration is proposed in the existing tariff.

Her Majesty's troop-ship Jumna has arrived at Bombay.

Franz Liszt has been appointed director of the Conservatory of Music at Pesth.

The Mexican Congress has passed a constitutional law for the creation of a Senate.

Sir John Macdonald's election has been declared void by the Election Court at Toronto, but he is acquitted of the charge of personal bribery.

Intelligence has reached Melbourne from New Zealand announcing the arrival there of the Marquis of Normanby, the new Governor.

Lord Lytton is to succeed the Hon. Sir Charles Murray, K.C.B., the present Minister of Great Britain at Lisbon, who has signified his wish to retire from the diplomatic service.

The French Academy of Sciences has elected M. Joseph Bertrand perpetual secretary, in the room of M. Elie de Beaumont, deceased. M. Bertrand was returned by 33 votes, against 13 given to M. Faye.

A telegram has been received from Admiral Sir Charles Shadwell, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief on the China station, stating that the Japanese will evacuate Formosa with all dispatch, the agreement with the Pekin Government being accepted as entirely satisfactory.

Advices from Cape Coast Castle state that the Kings and Chiefs of the Gold Coast Protectorate were to meet on the 5th inst. to discuss the proposed change of Government. Some tribes near the English settlement of the Gambia were at war with others in British territory, and the Governor had gone to them to endeavour to promote peace.

Some further particulars have been received respecting the mission to Uganda on which Lieutenant-Colonel Long was sent by Colonel Gordon. Lieutenant-Colonel Long was accompanied only by two Egyptian soldiers, and arrived without opposition at the Court of King Mtesa, by whom he was well received; but on his return he and his party were attacked by a body of natives, and repulsed them with severe loss.

Prince Milan, in opening the Servian Chambers on Sunday, spoke of the friendly relations between Servia and Roumania, and promised a liberal reform of the Constitution.—It is stated that the Sultan and the majority of his Ministers are willing now to allow Roumania and Servia to conclude commercial conventions, on the understanding that no political character is given to such conventions.

At a horse, donkey, mule, and goat show, held at Brighton on Tuesday, the first prize for horses was gained by one that was in the charge of Balacava, and had been driven by the exhibitor eighteen years.

A letter has been addressed by the Pope to Cardinal Cullen acknowledging the receipt of £2600 in "Peter's pence," and bestowing the highest praise on those Bishops in Ireland who have raised their voices in condemnation of the "nefarious doctrines" lately delivered to the public by unbelieving men, "under the pretence of promoting science."—Dr. Ullathorne, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, has issued a pastoral letter to the faithful of his diocese, in which he refers at length to Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet on the Vatican decrees, and vindicates his co-religionists from the imputations upon the thorough loyalty of their civil allegiance.

"THE CHESS-PLAYERS."

Mr. Charles M. Webb, the painter of this picture, which was engrave from the last exhibition of the New British Institution in Old Bond-street, is, as his name imports, an Englishman by extraction, and also, we believe, by birth. But his art-life has been passed entirely abroad—first at Düsseldorf, then at Antwerp, and since at Clives, in Rhenish Prussia. For this reason, and because few of his works have left the Continent, he is less known in this country than he deserves to be. If we could fairly do so we should gladly claim him as belonging to our school, for there are few British painters to compare with him as a vigorous painter of character and expression, sometimes serious, but generally humorous. Of his ability in the latter direction the subject before us affords a sample. A clergyman of the neighbourhood—Roman Catholic or Protestant, as the case may be—has called on one of the parishioners in his cure—a sagacious-looking, small farmer, we should say—in easy circumstances, judging by the cosy comfort of the quaint parlour. Being Germans, pipes are, of course, inevitable; and with these aids to reflection the worthy pair have pitted their respective intelligence and craft in the arena of the chess-board. On this occasion the civil power is evidently too much for the ecclesiastical. We will not pretend that there is any suggestion of the contest between Prince Bismarck and his Holiness the Pope; but certainly the Ultramontanes are not at present in worse case in Fatherland than the portly gentleman whose *tricorn* and umbrella are deposited against the cabinet behind his chair. We see by the board that there is a great preponderance of white pieces; "Red" seems to have lost his queen, and checkmate is imminent. But all this is clearly told in the gestures and expressions, without reference to the board. "White" has made a decisive move: a covert smile of victory plays over his face; though still watchful and wary, he can turn his attention to refilling his pipe. Poor Red clamps his lips, he presses his hand to his working brain; he is in the last extremity of perplexity; he even forgets his pipe; it is "Red to play," but he is arriving at the conviction that his antagonist's next move must give him checkmate, and finish Red!

We may add that another example of this excellent painter, but in his serious vein, has just been added to the current exhibition in Bond-street. An old North German fisherman is reading "A Chapter" from the Bible to his aged partner.

"FRA BEATO."

This is one of those "subject pictures" with which Mr. Rudolph Lehmann, the eminent portrait-painter, varies the course of his usual practice. His works of this class generally represent Italian scenes and incidents—recalling the artist's long residence in Rome—and not unfrequently they are full of deep and grave suggestiveness. We said of this particular example when it was in the last exhibition of the Royal Academy (under the title of "Ave Maria") that there were few pictures then at Burlington House which would compare with it for true though latent pathetic sentiment and quiet refinement of execution. Our engraving will bear out this and other observations in our critical column, at least as regards the conception. A brown-frocked Capuchin sits in his cell, a type of monastic solitude, and of that piety which severs itself from the world, if it does not also "hide its light under a bushel." A couple of stools, a hard truckle-bed, a desk, and a few books furnish his narrow domicile. His head is relieved against the failing light seen through the casement; calm reigns on the sea, silence broods around, when the evensong or bell falls on his ear; and as he listens, his eye wanders from the book—a devotional one, as we may suppose—upon which he has been meditating. So still is the hour that birds fearlessly settle on the window-sill to pick up the crumbs he has probably placed there. But, as we before observed, a deeper meaning seems to underlie the representation. The monk is young and has a noble head, but his expression is sad and lonely; and this, together with the significant accessories of the plucked rose and the little birds alighted on the window-sill, and the approaching repose of nature after a bright and busy summer's day, suggest to us energies imprisoned and wasted, and unnatural divorcement from God's beautiful world, and a deprivation of the freedom He has given to all His creatures. The picture is in the exhibition (now about to close) at the Liverpool Free Library and Museum.

The master engineers and shipbuilders on the Clyde met on Thursday week, and resolved to enforce a general reduction of wages to the extent of from 5 to 10 per cent.

The November session of the Central Criminal Court was opened on Monday, when the Recorder acceded to an application for a postponement of the trial of James Cranwell on a charge of murder until the December session. Richard Arthur Carden, a clergyman, who had pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery upon the Cheque Bank, was sentenced to seven years' penal servitude. Three conductors in the employment of the London General Omnibus Company were convicted of embezzlement, and two were sentenced to nine months' hard labour, and the third to six months of the like punishment. William Hazelton, who was found guilty last session of obtaining a large quantity of property by fraud, was ordered to be kept in penal servitude for five years. The Court refused Mrs. Pittendreich's application to postpone the trial of Dr. Kenealy for libel. On Tuesday application was made on behalf of a number of pawnbrokers, who had taken in pledge a large quantity of jewellery stolen from a City warehouseman by an assistant, that the money they had advanced should be repaid them. The Common Serjeant decided that they had not exercised sufficient caution, and the property must, therefore, be given up unconditionally. In the same court six soldiers, who had murderously assaulted a detective policeman at Woolwich, were sentenced to hard labour, one for fifteen months and the rest for twelve months each. Dr. Kenealy was put upon his trial, on Wednesday, on the charge of libel brought against him by Mrs. Pittendreich. The prosecutrix, who conducted her case in person, applied for a postponement; but this was refused, and, as she was unable to produce any evidence, a verdict of acquittal was ordered by the Court. Afterwards Captain Horatio Walters, charged with the murder of a lascar sailor at sea, was found guilty of manslaughter, but sentence was deferred pending the hearing of other charges of a similar kind against the prisoner. In another case Hussein Ali, a lascar seaman, was indicted for the murder of a fellow-countryman at Poplar, and, being found guilty of manslaughter, was sentenced to penal servitude for life. Frederick Fish, convicted of participation in the frauds on the Norwich and Norfolk Provident Building Society, was condemned to sixteen months' imprisonment. John Johnson, alias William John Anderson, twenty-three, was on Thursday indicted for piracy and for feloniously wounding William Leslie, the captain of a British ship called the *Satsuma*, with intent to murder him. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and Baron Pollock, under the Act against piracy, ordered judgment of death to be recorded.



"THE CHESS-PLAYERS." BY WEBB.



"The world forgetting, by the world forgot."

"FRA BEATO." BY R. LEHMANN.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

"London is no longer a city; it is a province covered with houses." Rarely has there occurred, I should say, a more striking illustration of M. Guizot's shrewd remark—and he made it at a time when the British metropolis was one third smaller than it is now—than in two public meetings which took place in two different departments of "the Great Wen" on Wednesday last. Meeting the first was that of the Quebec Institute, a useful and, I am happy to hear, flourishing educational organisation, at whose theatre, in Lower Seymour-street, Portman-square, an "inaugural address" was delivered by Mr. John Walter, M.P. Lord Lyttelton was in the chair, and a great company of intellectual notabilities gathered round his Lordship on the platform, including Sir Thomas Chambers, Mr. Thomas Hughes, Captain Maxse, Mr. Anthony Trollope, and Miss Emily Faithfull. Mr. Walter's oration was a very lengthy one; but it was throughout interesting, appreciative, and scholar-like. So far so good; and I drink the health of the Quebec Institute in syrup of squills and paregoric, your only beverage, I fear, at this dreadful influenza season.

While the sensible people in Lower Seymour-street were thus burning incense before the shrine of knowledge, a mightier public meeting was being held at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, to debate the expediency of adopting the provisions of the Public Libraries and Museums Act in that parish. Professor Leone Levi made a capital speech in moving a resolution in favour of the proposal; but he was howled down by the opposite faction, and, amidst yells of "No library!" it was decided by more than a thousand votes that Islington should not have a Free Library and Museum. One gentleman adverse to the scheme remarked that if working people wanted to read books and periodicals they could go to the coffee-shops. It appears that the tax to which the ratepayers would have been liable, had the resolution been carried, would have amounted to no more than 1s. 4d. per annum for a £32-rated house! Islington is a very interesting and a traditionally "merry" suburb. I went to see "Girofié-Girofié" the other night at the Philharmonic, and found the private boxes and stalls full of the aristocracy; but at the same time, while Islington is "merry," I scarcely think that she can have been wise in so tumultuously rejecting the beneficent Free Libraries Act. A hundred years ago there lodged at Canonbury Tower a certain man of letters, who there wrote a considerable portion of that "Animated Nature" which, although not quite so scientific as the subsequent productions of Cuvier, Milne-Edwards, and Richard Owen, has not ceased to be as entertaining as the "Arabian Nights." I should have liked to see a statue of Oliver Goldsmith in the hall of a Free Library and Museum at Islington.

Talking of Nature I am reminded that journalistic opinion in the south of France has been distracted by a controversy as to whether the effigy of the famous French orator and statesman of the last century, Gabriel Honoré Riquetti Comte de Mirabeau, should be suffered to find a resting-place in the Palais de Justice at Aix, near which Provençal town he was born. The Republicans maintain that this memorial of the great Tribune of the People could not be erected in a more appropriate locality than Aix, whose Provincial Assembly of Nobles ignominiously expelled Mirabeau, in 1789, as unworthy to sit in their midst; but the Conservatives contend that to place a statue of Mirabeau in the Tribunal at Aix would be an insult to the memory of "the virtuous Portalis," whose counterfeit presentment in bronze or marble stands hard by, and who declared Mirabeau to be "a bad son and a bad citizen." Another section of French society might object to any monumental honours being paid to his memory, on the ground that he was an exceedingly wicked man; that he neglected his wife; that he ran away with the Marquise de Mounier; and that he wrote the "Letters à Sophie." Lord Rochester, Lord Byron, Lord Barrymore, and John Wilkes, rolled into one, might, perhaps, present an adequately characteristic definition of Mirabeau; yet he was undeniably one of the greatest of the great men of the eighteenth century. Shall Mirabeau have a statue? Well; should Cromwell have one? We have not completely answered that question yet. The bust of him whom Clarendon calls "a brave bad man," but whom Macanlay declares to have been "the greatest Prince" that ever ruled these realms, looms large in the cortile of the Reform Club; but the Lord Great Chamberlain, or his Lordship's superiors, won't have Oliver at Westminster. There is one difficulty connected with the erection of a statue to Mirabeau which the controversialists on each side seem to have overlooked. He was one of the ugliest men of his century—uglier than Wilkes, uglier than Heidegger, uglier than Roubiliac; and he used to describe his own countenance as that of "a tiger marked with the smallpox."

Poor Artemus Ward used to tell a droll story to the effect that he once asked President Lincoln for a testimonial as to his merits as a comic lecturer, and that the illustrious Abraham sent him in reply this laconic note:—"Sir,—I have read your lectures, and think they will be highly approved of by people who like lectures.—Yours truly, A. LINCOLN." Similarly, it appears to me that those who like horrors will be delighted with the "Horrid Note-Paper," a packet of which has just been sent to me by an enterprising City firm. You open the packet, and you find some fearful creeping thing disporting itself on the paper. You lay that sheet by, when, lo! in the next and the next after that you see all manner of creatures with wings and long legs, and many of them, crawling over the Bath post. But there is no reason to be alarmed. The insects which appear on the "Horrid Note-Paper" are only artful entomological imitations, sharply embossed and skilfully coloured. It is a very eccentric novelty, certainly; but, so long as a thing is novel, a dash of the terrific may do no harm. Do you remember the death's-head breast-pins, and the *furor* created by Mr. Dircks's Ghost at the Polytechnic? and Pharaoh's serpents? and the extraordinary optical arrangement in mahogany, peeping into which and turning a handle you were enabled to distort the representation of a human face into a hundred and fifty distinct variations of ugliness?

Good stories are so very rare nowadays that when found they should be immediately treated *à la Cuttle*, and "made a note of." The reviewers seem, somehow, to have missed cognisance of one of the best stories in the "Greville Memoirs," that of George IV. at the Pavilion, at Brighton, sending in hot haste, and in the middle of the night, for Sir Robert Peel to confer with him on affairs of State. Sir Robert was fain to come down in his bed-gown, and in that airy costume he sat shivering in the Royal presence while his Majesty held forth on contemporary politics. Now, Sir Robert, though a solemn speaker, was somewhat vivacious in the way of gesticulation; and he was suiting the action to the word and the word to the action, when the monarch cried out pettishly, "Confound it, Sir, don't paw the air in that way. Put your hands in your pockets. But, alas! a night-gown has no pockets."

Fully worthy to rank in the way of humour with this anecdote is the little apologue related by Sir Arthur Helps in

the delightful volume of essays called "Social Pressure" which the accomplished author of "Friends in Council" has just published. One of Sir Arthur's imaginary interlocutors (and yet do not Milverton, Ellesmere, Lady Mildred, Cranmer, and the rest seem to us as though they were our own flesh and blood?) relates that, being at a fashionable entertainment, he stepped into the balcony and remarked in German—he rather plumed himself on his German—to a distinguished Austrian by his side, looking at the moon, "How beautiful she looks to-night." "Yes," replied the distinguished Austrian, "she is indeed beautiful: the lady in the yellow gown—what you call amber, I think." He thought that his English friend who spoke German had been talking, not about the moon, but about the gracious hostess of the evening. The moon, you see, in German is a masculine substantive—*der Mond*. But who shall account for the caprices of the genders of nouns? Why should the word "sea" be feminine in French, masculine and feminine in Spanish, and neuter in Latin?

In the first part of Dr. Christopher Dresser's "Studies in Design," a work intended for the use of house decorators and art-manufacturers, which has just been issued by Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, I notice, among some very beautiful examples of Greek, Persian, and Saracenic ornament, one of the most curious, yet at the same time one of the most effective, designs for a door panel or a *dessus de porte* I have met with out of the range of antique art. Dr. Dresser has given to his design, which merely represents Chanticleer admonishing a very knowing young chick, the title of "Parental Advice;" but it is less for the conception than for the astonishing brilliance of the colour that the work is remarkable. On a sober ground of sage green and dull maroon, the birds stand out as though in relief, and in dazzling bright enamel. The *motivo*, as the Italians say, is evidently Japanese; and it is to Japan that our decorative artists must resort if they wish to recover the secrets of colouring which the old mediæval glass-painters made such wondrous use of.

Too soon has died poor Tom Hood, the only son of him who "sang the Song of the Shirt," and who inherited much of the bright fancy and exquisitely lyric faculty possessed by his father. Tom Hood the Younger was one of the most mellifluous of versifiers; and a graceful recognition of his facility and fluency in this regard was made by Mr. Thackeray in inserting Tom's poem, "To Golden Hair" (a charming version of Horace's ode to Pyrrha), in the first number of the *Cornhill Magazine*. T. H. also published a capital technical handy book for young poets, called "The Rules of Rhyme." He wrote novels, story-books, joke-books, magazine articles, and what not; and to the day of his death was the editor of the diverting publication *Fun*, which for some years past he had conducted. Handsome, witty, and sprightly, he was one of the most amiable of men; but he was not, in any respect, a strong man. He had been ill for more than twelve months, and died of a complication of diseases ere he had reached his fortieth year. "Martini Luigi implora pace." Thus runs the simple epitaph in the church at Siena. A better one could not be found for poor Tom Hood—the most pacific, the most placable, the most "douce" of the irritable literary race.

A courteous correspondent, C. T. B., tells me that it was in the year 1846 that Messrs. Chapman and Hall advertised for proximate publication that "Life of Talleyrand," by W. M. Thackeray, which was destined never to appear; and another reader of the "Echoes" has been good enough to send me a copy of the *North British Review* containing an article on Thackeray, the writer of which seems strongly inclined to adopt, from internal evidence, the hypothesis that W. M. T. was the author of "Elizabeth de Brownrigg" in *Fraser*. I have an idea that the paper in the *North British Review* was from the pen of the late and lamented Samuel Lucas, author of "Secularia," and some time editor of *Once a Week*.

G. A. S.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

Lady Stirling-Maxwell, while waiting the return of Sir William from a shooting party at Keir, on Saturday, was seized with an attack of epilepsy. She fell on the fire and was severely burned on the head, chest, and hands, three of the fingers of which had subsequently to be amputated.

Mrs. Swire, wife of Alderman Swire, ex-Mayor of Southport, was so seriously burned, on Thursday week, through her dress becoming ignited at a gas stove in her bed-room, that she died next day. Her husband had his hands badly burned in endeavouring to extinguish the flames.

Inquests were held at Guy's Hospital, on Monday night, on the bodies of three persons who had been burned to death at different places. One of the deceased was an old man, another an elderly woman, and the third a child. Death was accidental in each case, and verdicts to that effect were returned.

Early yesterday week a disastrous explosion happened at the Rawmarsh Colliery, near Rotherham, belonging to Messrs. J. and J. Charlesworth. An exploring party immediately descended and thirteen dead bodies were recovered. Afterwards an attempt was made to draw off the gas in the dangerous part of the workings, but the draught set fire to the workings, and operations had to be suspended. At night they were resumed, and several more bodies were brought out. The number killed is twenty-three.

A twelve-oared cutter belonging to H.M.S. Aurora was run down in the Clyde, on Thursday week, by the Dublin steamer Duke of Leinster, and all on board were thrown into the water. Before assistance could be rendered fifteen of their number were drowned.

Early on Wednesday morning there was a stoppage of traffic at the Haggerston station of the North London Railway. On search being made, the signalman was found dead in his box.

Half the town of Tuscomb, in Alabama, has been destroyed by a severe tornado, and twelve of the inhabitants have been killed and many injured.

The annual prize-meeting of the 13th Surrey Volunteers took place in the Townhall, Guildford, on Monday evening last. The chair was taken by the Mayor, and the prizes were distributed by Lady Victoria Fisher. The prizes were valuable and numerous, the principal contributors being Lieutenant-Colonel Weston and Mrs. Weston, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, and J. Weale, Esq. The first four prizes were won by Messrs. Drewitt, Payne, and Clough.

The opening dinner of the new Liberal Club took place at Lincoln on Wednesday. There were 300 persons present, including the Mayor, several of the Corporation of Lincoln, and a deputation of the Liberal party from Boston. The club has for its object the organisation and consolidation of the Liberal party.—The Duke of Beaufort presided, on Wednesday, at a banquet in Gloucester, to celebrate the Conservative victories in that district at the last general election.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Admiral Rous's efforts to induce the French Jockey Club to throw open more races to English horses have failed to produce any immediate result. In a long reply to the Admiral's letter, Viscount Daru regrets that at present his club has no power to admit English horses to competition for most of its funds, and for money voted by the Government, but thinks that by "augmenting progressively from private funds the number of prizes to English horses we shall more certainly, and more surely, approach the object which we desire to attain." It is certainly unfair that, to quote Admiral Rous's letter, French horses are "free to run for every prize and sweepstakes, even for the Royal plates voted by Parliament expressly for the encouragement of native horses," while, with the exception of the Prix de Paris, there is no important race in France open to our representatives. At the same time, we consider Sir John Astley's motion, which would virtually bar foreign horses from competing in England, a very great mistake, and feel sure that it will be thrown out by an overwhelming majority. Men like the late Count Rénard, Count Lagrange, and M. Lefevre can ill be spared at Newmarket and elsewhere, and to banish all foreign sportsmen from our racecourses would indeed be a long step backwards. It is, however, only natural that English owners, whose horses have run home in attendance on a Gladiateur, an Adonis, an Ecossais, or a Peut-être, should wish to have their revenge at Chantilly or the Bois de Boulogne, and we trust that our neighbours will shortly overcome the legal difficulties, and give us "a clear course and no favour" on the Continent.

Mr. Frail's autumn gathering at Shrewsbury last week proved a great success in every way, all the stakes which closed overnight filling well, and large fields contesting nearly every event. Lilian at last seems to feel the effects of the incessant work she has done this season, and Scamp, for the third time, beat her cleverly in the last Queen's Plate of the year. Duc de Beaufort (11 st. 8 lb.) atoned for his mistake at Liverpool by an easy victory in the Autumn Steeplechase, and, as Rufina (10 st. 12 lb.), his nearest opponent, has since run very well, he seems likely to take high honours across country. Harvester (11 st. 3 lb.) ran very badly in this race, and has quite failed to fulfil his Croydon promise. The Fakenham Ghost (7 st. 3 lb.) started favourite for the Groby Cup, and appeared to be winning easily at the distance. The moment, however, that Macadam (6 st. 10 lb.), a cast-off from M. Lefevre's stable, challenged him, he declined to make the smallest effort, and the latter won as he liked. The "back end" is a grand time for old and patched-up horses, the soft ground exactly suiting their "poor feet;" so we were not altogether surprised to see the aged Syrian (7 st. 3 lb.) repeat his victory of last year in the Great Shrop-hire Handicap. His previous essays this year were certainly as bad as they could be; still, public form is by no means a reliable guide, and, with the invincible Glover in the saddle, he started a better favourite than anything, except Peeping Tom (6 st. 11 lb.). The latter, on his best form, had an undeniable chance; but he was never formidable, and has not yet recovered from the effects of his collision with a cab at Paddington station. Conseil (6 st.) ran well, and Delay (7 st.) obtained a place, as usual; but neither of the heavy weights—Lowlander (9 st. 6 lb.) and Thunder (9 st.)—finished in the first six.

Touche-à-Tout, an own sister to the flying Tangle, won the first race on the Thursday; but she is only a moderate filly, and does not seem likely to rival the deeds of her distinguished brother. The lucky Mr. Gomm had an easy victory in the Column Handicap with Pageant (7 st. 9 lb.). The improvement recently exhibited by this colt is really extraordinary. Until very lately he has been regarded as a mere plater; but at present it is doubtful if any three-year-old in training could give him 14 lb.; Conseil (7 st. 7 lb.) was again second. Jesuit (12 st. 2 lb.) made a very promising first appearance over hurdles, as, in spite of his welter weight, Faust, to whom he was conceding no less than 21 lb., only beat him a head, and this was mainly owing to the fine riding of J. Adams; and, as Modena had never won a weight-for-age race, and claimed the full 16-lb. allowance, she could not fail to win the Shobden Cup. The Shrewsbury Cup was the only event of interest on the last day, and once more an old one had matters all her own way, for though Pageant (7 st. 8 lb.) stayed as well as a son of the stout Elland should, and proved capable of beating all the rest, he could never get fairly on terms with The Quail (6 st. 7 lb.), who, making full use of her light weight, lay in front throughout. Lady Alice (6 st. 7 lb.) was third, and ran far better than had been anticipated; but Flurry (8 st.) could never go the pace, and Falkland (8 st. 2 lb.) has become very slow. We must not forget to mention that Benedictine won a couple of races, and thus slightly recompensed her party for their Cambridgeshire disappointment.

The running at the Altcar Club Meeting, which took place last week, derives additional interest from the fact that the ground coursed over is the same on which the Waterloo Cup is decided, and any puppy which shows high form at this meeting is likely to fill a nomination for the great event. Unfortunately, the weather was not very favourable; but hares were plentiful, and ran stoutly, and Mr. Hedley and Kerse performed their respective duties of judge and slipper in very satisfactory style. The Sefton Stakes for dog puppies fell to Minalto, by Happy Joe—Brunette, who ran clean away from Vallambrosa, by Pretender—Voisage, in the final spin. Minalto improved greatly as he went on, and is clearly very smart. The Croxeth Stakes was divided between Canteen, by Brigadier—Kitty Clover, and Beer, by Cavalier—Bacchante, after they had run an undecided. In the Altcar Club Cup, Muriel, the winner of last year's Waterloo Cup, made her reappearance; but, though she seems as fast as ever, she ran terribly wide at every turn, and was put out in the first round by Minter. Cressus won a couple of courses in good form, but then succumbed to Ballot Box, by Blackburn—Bessie, who eventually divided with Scamp, by Blairgowrie—Fanny Turner.

On Monday last the Amateur Bicycle Club presented a gold medal for a ten-mile race at Lillie-bridge, and, after a splendid contest between J. Keen and D. Stanton for nine miles, the pair constantly passing and repassing each other, Keen shot away, and won by nearly 200 yards, covering the full distance in 36 min. 32 sec. On the following day Stanton competed in a two-mile match against a trotting cob, and was easily beaten, as the cob completed the distance in 6 min. 38 2-5 sec., while Stanton's time was 7 min. 7 sec.

The new docks at Sharpness Point, Gloucestershire, erected at a cost of about £200,000, and capable of accommodating trading ships of the largest size, were opened on Wednesday.

An inaugural session of the Irish Civil Service and Literary Society, for the year 1874-5, was held, on Tuesday evening, in the theatre of the Royal Dublin Society. There was a large attendance, and the chair was occupied by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, Bart., Chief Secretary for Ireland, president. Mr. Conway, of the National Education Office, gave the address.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Ashurst, James Henry, to be Honorary Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.
 Bailey, Charles, Vicar of Martin in Cleveland; Proctor in Convocation for the Archdeaconry of Cleveland.
 Burnett, Montagu; Precursor of All Saints, Clifton.
 Cudde, J. Henchman; Rector of Bexwell, Norfolk.
 Cooper, Thomas; Vicar of Playford.
 Davis, C.; Vicar of Axmouth, Devon.
 Dunne, J.; Vicar of St. Mary's, Wakefield.
 Elmacombe, Henry N.; Rural Dean of Hawkesbury (southern division).
 Ellis, Edward; Vicar of Foxton, near Market Harborough.
 Evans, W. Howell; Honorary Canon in St. Asaph Cathedral.
 Fisher, E. H.; Honorary Canon of Winchester Cathedral.
 Gillam, T. H.; Rector of Culham; Vicar of Weaverham.
 Hitchcock, W. M.; Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral.
 Howard, W. W.; Vicar of Blackmoor, near Petersfield.
 Maclean, J. H.; Curate (so called) of Whiteparish, Wilts.
 Mackenzie, Roderick, B.; Rector of Sudbrooke, near Lincoln.
 Peacey, T.; Curate of Downton, Salisbury.
 Pearson, Josiah Brown; Vicar of Newark-on-Trent.
 Porey-Cust, Arthur P.; Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.
 Pitcher, A. W.; Vicar of Gawcott, Bucks.
 Polard, F. W.; Vicar of Paignton and Marldon, South Devon; Surrogate.
 Potter, C. A.; Rector of Thimbleby, Horncastle.
 Reeve, E. J.; Assistant Curate of St. Augustine's, South Bermondsey.
 Richmond, T. K.; Chaplain to the Bishop of Carlisle.
 Smith, Herbert; Rector of Chilton, Suffolk.
 Smith, Isaac Gregory; Chaplain of the 11th Worcestershire Rifles.
 Stanning, J. H.; Curate (sole charge); Vicar of Leigh, Lancashire.
 Sewell, W.; Fellow of New College; Rector of Newnton Longville, Bleckley.
 Vaughan, H.; Curate in Charge of Saverlake, Wilts.
 Wallace, W. B.; Incumbent of St. Kieran's, Campbelltown.
 Walton, C. B.; Vicar of Pelsall, Stafford.
 White, Samuel; Minister of the District of St. Cuthbert's, Gateshead.
 Wilcox Arthur Marwood; Licensed Preacher in the Diocese of Carlisle.
 Young, J. Reynolds; Honorary Canon in Worcester Cathedral.

The Dean and Chapter of Worcester, on Wednesday, finally refused to grant the use of the cathedral for future musical festivals.

All Saints' Church, a temporary place of worship erected in South Lambeth to accommodate about 1000 persons, was opened, on Wednesday, by the Bishop of Winchester.

The company for the revision of the Old Testament finished their twenty-sixth session, yesterday week, at the Jerusalem Chamber. They have reached the end of 2 Sam. xviii.

The Rev. S. Thornton, Rector of St. George's, Birmingham, has been appointed Bishop of Ballarat, in the colony of Victoria, subject to the confirmation of the Australian Bishops.

Dr. Tristram has given judgment in the Consistorial Court of London on the complaint of Dr. Evans, Rector of St. Mary-le-Strand, against Mr. Dobson, one of his churchwardens, for removing two offering-boxes for "altar flowers." The churchwarden was admonished for the ecclesiastical offence, and condemned in costs; but an order for the restoration of the boxes was refused.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, yesterday week, addressed the members of the Margate Church Institute on the topic of faith and scepticism in the present day. In the course of his speech he asked whether they should tear each other to pieces for a vestment or a candlestick. Believing that there was real danger of a violent assault against the Gospel of Christ, he advised all to work heartily together to maintain it, without magnifying differences which would weaken their hands.

The parishioners of Clayton-cum-Keymer have presented to the Rev. William David Cowley a handsome silver salver, bearing a suitable inscription, and to Mrs. Cowley an elegant silver card-case, as farewell tokens of their appreciation of the kind and effective services which the former has rendered them during a period of a few months' ministerial residence amongst them, and of the latter's assiduous attentions in the parish, as his helper in the holy work to which his life is devoted. Mr. Cowley is returning to India, to resume at Seetapore his duties as chaplain to H.M. Bengal establishment.

A general court and election of the Friends of the Clergy Corporation, established for allowing pensions to the widows and daughters of clergymen of the Church of England and granting temporary assistance to distressed clergymen and their families, was held, on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms, under the presidency of the Rev. Edward Auriol. The Rev. Mr. Jona, the secretary, read a short statement, from which it appeared that about one hundred ladies are receiving pensions from the society, varying in amount from £30 to £40 per annum, and three additional pensioners were elected from an approved list of candidates. The polling resulted in the election of Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. Bluet, and Mrs. E. Wright. Nearly £11,000 has been granted to necessitous clergymen and their families at times of great trial and suffering, and the urgent appeals for special aid are most numerous and distressing, upwards of 200 cases being now before the committee.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Owing to ill-health, Dr. Sewell, Warden of New College, Oxford, who became Vice-Chancellor of the University at the beginning of the present term, has been obliged to resign that office.—Sir William Reynell Anson, Bart., M.A., Fellow of All Souls' College, special pleader, of the Temple and Home Circuit, has been elected to the Vinerian Readership in Civil and English Law, vacant by the resignation of Mr. K. E. Digby. The following have been elected to classical scholarships at Balliol:—Mr. J. D. Rogers, Marlborough; Mr. R. R. Farrer, Eton; and Mr. H. R. Reichell, Christ's Hospital. Exhibitions have been awarded to Mr. Ritchie, Edinburgh University and Balliol; Mr. T. E. Griffiths, Cheltenham; and Mr. G. Tallents, Harrow. Proxime accesserunt—Mr. Kent, Harrow and Balliol, and Mr. F. H. Colson, Haileybury. Mr. J. V. Jones, University College, London, has also been elected to the Brackenbury Natural Science Scholarship. Proxime accessit—Mr. C. Slater, Clifton.

At Cambridge the Carus Greek Testament prizes have been adjudged as follows:—Bachelor's prize, A. W. Streane, B.A., Emmanuel; undergraduate's prize, F. Wallis, Caius.—The McMahon law studentship at St. John's, tenable for four years, of the annual value of £150, open to all graduates of the college under the standing of M.A., who intend to prepare themselves for practice in the profession of the law, was on Saturday adjudged to F. C. Bayard, B.A., who was second in the law tripos, 1873. The number of these studentships has been increased to four, so one will be competed for annually.

Sir Robert Kane has been chosen by the junior fellows of Dublin University to the vacant seat in the academic council.

The election of Lord Rector of St. Andrew's University was held on Thursday morning, Principal Sharp presiding. The result was declared as follows:—The Dean of Westminster, 70; Lord Salisbury, 66.

The head-mastership of Guildford Grammar School, vacant by the preferment of the Rev. Dr. Merriman, has been conferred upon the Rev. C. H. Jefferson, Second Master of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Grammar School.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Mr. Robert Rawlinson, C.B., presided, on Monday, at the adjourned discussion on Mr. Hare's scheme for constructing a municipality for the metropolis, which was again adjourned.

An iron steam-ram, built for the Mexican Government by Messrs. Rennie, was launched on Wednesday. She is named the Mexico, and is a vessel of 650 tons, 100-horse power.

The Metropolitan Visiting and Relief Association, of 21, Regent-street, has again received a donation of £100 from Messrs. Truman, Hanbury, and Co.

At a meeting held in the Agricultural Hall, on Tuesday, the ratepayers of Islington resolved, by a majority of upwards of a thousand, that the provisions of the Public Libraries Act should not be adopted by that parish.

Sir C. Reed, speaking at a home missionary meeting on Monday night, told his audience that when he was member for Hackney he changed his clothes and went into the vilest nests of poverty in that borough, in order to make himself acquainted with the condition of the poor.

The directors of the Bank of England have agreed to recommend to the proprietors Mr. Henry Horatio Gibbs, the present deputy governor, for governor; and Mr. Edward Howley Palmer, of the firm of Dent, Palmer, and Co., as deputy governor, at the election in April next.

Dr. Hardwicke, whose return by the freeholders of Central Middlesex to fill the office of Coroner was, on Saturday, verified by the official declaration of the poll, addressed the electors; and a frank and cordial letter of congratulation from his opponent, Mr. James Boulton, was read from the hustings at Portland-place.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 92,782, of whom 35,324 were in workhouses and 57,458 received outdoor relief. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 604, of whom 422 were men, 151 women, and 31 children.

Earl Grey, writing on the subject of the proposed extension of the municipality of London, expresses himself of opinion that it is not yet ripe for legislation, and recommends the appointment of a special committee of inquiry on the question, under the auspices of the Government.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir J. M. Hogg, M.P., chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works, was entertained at dinner on Wednesday night, at Willis's Rooms. General Sir W. J. Coddington presided, and among those present were the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary.

The next triennial prize of £300 under the will of the late Sir Astley P. Cooper, Bart., will be awarded to the author of the best essay or treatise on "The Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathology of the Sympathetic Nervous System." The adjudicators of this prize are the physicians and surgeons of Guy's Hospital, to whom the essays must be sent before Jan. 1, 1877.

At a meeting of the Legal Practitioners' Society, held yesterday week, Mr. Charley, M.P., congratulated the members on the success of the institution in protecting the public against legal quacks. He also referred to the endeavours which it had made to obtain a reform in the constitution of the Inns of Court, more particularly in regard to discipline.

The general purposes committee of the Metropolitan Asylums Board having expressed an opinion that the time has arrived for providing an additional asylum for the accommodation of imbeciles, the board has referred it to the committee of the Hampstead Asylum to seek for a suitable site for the purpose. The new building will cost about £250,000.

Sir Thomas Chambers, Q.C., M.P., delivered the opening lecture in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association, on Monday, at Exeter Hall, entitled "The Constitution of England essentially Protestant." He commended Mr. Gladstone's pamphlet as a noble appeal to the Roman Catholics. Mr. L. Bevan occupied the chair.

An official announcement was made at the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on Monday, respecting the Arctic expedition and the visit of Sir Leopold M'Clintock to the north for the purpose of selecting vessels. The month of May next was mentioned as the probable time when the expedition would start. A paper was read by Colonel Egerton Warburton on his journey last year from Central Australia to the West Coast.

The Duke of Bedford has contributed a donation of £500 towards the funds of the Bedford College for Ladies. The institution, which was opened in 1849 in Bedford-square, was established for the purpose of offering a complete course of academic instruction to ladies who desired to pursue their education beyond the usual period of school life. The college has been removed to larger and more commodious premises in York-place, Portman-square.

Sir Charles Wingfield presided, on Wednesday, at a meeting of the East India Association, where General Marriott read an elaborate paper on the Indian fiscal system. Having reviewed the existing taxes, and pointed out the advantage of establishing free trade both in imports and exports, he proposed to retain only the duties on salt and opium, and to increase the land tax. He also expressed himself in favour of the Indian debt being guaranteed by the Imperial Government.

There was a large attendance of shareholders at the extraordinary meeting of the Crystal Palace Company, convened, yesterday week, to consider the charges of extravagance and mismanagement brought against the directors by Mr. Scott Russell, Mr. Fuller, and others. In opposition to the resolution for appointing a committee of investigation, the chairman moved an amendment declaring these proceedings untimely and likely to prove injurious to the company. The amendment was carried by 137 against 64 votes.

The annual distribution of prizes won during this year's course of shooting by the London Rifle Brigade took place at the Crystal Palace last Saturday—the Lord Mayor presiding. The presentations were made by the Lady Mayoress; and Colonel Hayter, M.P., who commands the regiment, took the opportunity of paying a tribute to the efficiency of his corps.—The annual prize-meeting of the B company of the Queen's (Westminster) was held at Wormwood-scrubbs last week. The prizes were numerous and the contest was keen. There were several series of prizes, and the chief prizes were carried off by Messrs. Black, Marriott, Scanes, Labourn, and Clothier.

Among the street improvements under the consideration of the Metropolitan Board of Works, yesterday week, was a new approach to Leicester-square, estimated to cost £40,000; an improved thoroughfare from London Bridge to Dockhead; and the widening of Kentish Town-road. Mr. M'Arthur, M.P., introduced a deputation from the parish of Lambeth desirous of preserving Stockwell-green for the public benefit. It was stated that one half of the estimated cost—£4000—would be contributed by the district. The board decided to give Parliamentary notice of their intention to purchase Stockwell-green, so as to keep it as an open space.

It has been resolved to establish a Jewish Working-Men's Club and Institute in the neighbourhood of Aldgate, where the poorer classes of Jews mostly dwell.

At Wednesday's meeting of the London School Board the Rev. J. Rodgers's motion that no pupil teacher under the age of fifteen, and not having passed the high-class standard with extra subjects, be engaged in board schools, was further considered, and an amendment, limiting the age to fourteen, was adopted. The whole question was, however, referred back to a committee. Other subjects considered related to the instruction of the deaf and dumb and the training of teachers on the Kindergarten system. There are twenty-five deaf and dumb children on the books of the Board, and on the average eighteen of them attend daily.—At a meeting of the members of the Society of Arts, held on Wednesday, in their rooms in John-street, Adelphi, a paper was read by Mr. T. R. Smith on School Buildings and School Fittings. Sir C. Reed presided.—New schools in Rodney-road were opened, on Tuesday, by Sir Charles Reed.

The effect of the cold weather which prevailed from the 7th to the 14th inst. is shown in the Registrar-General's returns for last week. The number of deaths registered during the week was 1795, which was 80 above the average. The annual death-rate from all causes, which in the four previous weeks had increased steadily from 20 to 23 per 1000, rose last week to 28, a higher rate than has prevailed in London in any week since the beginning of the year. This marked increase in the death-rate is most conspicuous in diseases of the respiratory organs, and among persons aged sixty and upwards. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs and phthisis, which in the three previous weeks had been 383, 465, and 518, further rose to 672 last week, and exceeded the corrected average weekly number by 73. Of the 672 deaths, 281 resulted from bronchitis, 202 from phthisis, and 135 from pneumonia. Relatively, the fatal cases of bronchitis showed the largest increase. The deaths from scarlet fever, which in the three previous weeks had been 128, 107, and 97, rose again last week to 124. There were 17 deaths from measles, 16 from diphtheria, 37 from whooping-cough, 38 from different forms of fever, 21 from diarrhoea, and not one from smallpox.

The Marquis of Drogheda has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Kildare in the room of the late Duke of Leinster.

The coal trade in South Wales is so depressed that the coal owners have decided to make another reduction in wages.

The board of directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, at their meeting on Wednesday, agreed to present an address to the Marquis of Salisbury congratulating him on his reappointment as Secretary of State for India, on the occasion of his visit to Manchester on Jan. 22.

A special meeting of the Midland Railway Company was held at Derby on Tuesday, at which a resolution was unanimously passed authorising the creation of £2,325,000 new stock. The question of the consolidation of the various stocks was postponed.

A conference of the ministers of all denominations, convened by the British Temperance League, was opened in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Tuesday. The Rev. W. Hay, of Liverpool, presided, and papers were read showing the influence of the drinking customs of society upon Christian work, and pointing out how the young may be best protected from the evils of such habits.

An influential meeting of the citizens of Edinburgh, presided over by the Lord Provost, was held on Tuesday, for the purpose of inaugurating a movement for the erection of a memorial to the late Mr. Adam Black, the publisher of the "Waverley Novels," and for many years associated with Baron Moncreiff, then the Right Hon. James Moncreiff, in the representation of the city in Parliament. Resolutions approving the object of the meeting were adopted, and £200 was subscribed.

Lord Emly, late Postmaster-General, delivered the inaugural address at the meeting of the Statistical Society at Dublin on Tuesday night. His Lordship reviewed the state of Ireland, and drew a very glowing picture of its legislative condition. He stated that Ireland had more religious equality, better land laws, better county laws, and lighter taxation than any other portion of the United Kingdom. One drawback in its condition was deficient education. To remedy this he proposed compulsory primary education and better training and organisation in endowed schools. He expressed his deep regret that the University Bill of last Session had been defeated.

With reference to the Illustrations we gave, last week, of Te Terata and Otukupuerangi, the silica terraces at the Hot Springs of Lake Rotomahana, New Zealand, the name of the photographer was stated, Mr. Müller; but we have been indebted to another photographic artist, Mr. D. L. Mundy, for some admirable views of the volcanic region of New Zealand on former occasions. Mr. Mundy has travelled for the purposes of his art through many parts both of the North and of the Middle or South Island, and has obtained, at great cost as well as by dint of immense labour, a most extensive and various collection of New Zealand scenes, represented with a high degree of skill. He is now in London, with his collection, which numbers several hundred photographs. It was, during Mr. Mundy's residence in the colony, examined and approved by Sir George Grey, the retired Governor, and by Sir George Bowen, his successor in the Government. We understand that Mr. Mundy is about to publish his Illustrations of the Geysers of New Zealand, with descriptive notes written expressly for them by Dr. Ferdinand von Hochstetter, of the Polytechnic Institution, Vienna, the scientific reporter of the Austrian Novara Expedition. Mr. Mundy has brought to England a collection of stalactites, fern-leaves and twigs covered with silica, and other natural curiosities, showing the action of the hot springs. This subject is one which may well engage the attention of our scientific societies.

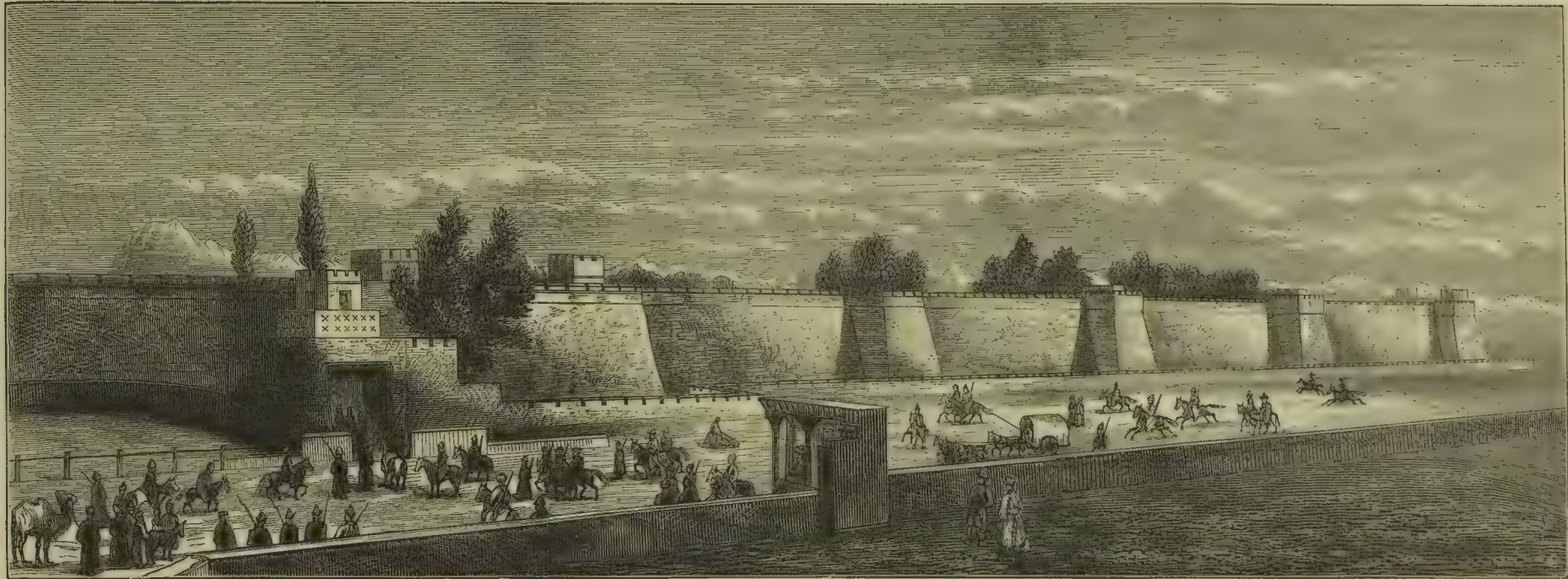
A SERVANTS' HIRING OFFICE, BERLIN.

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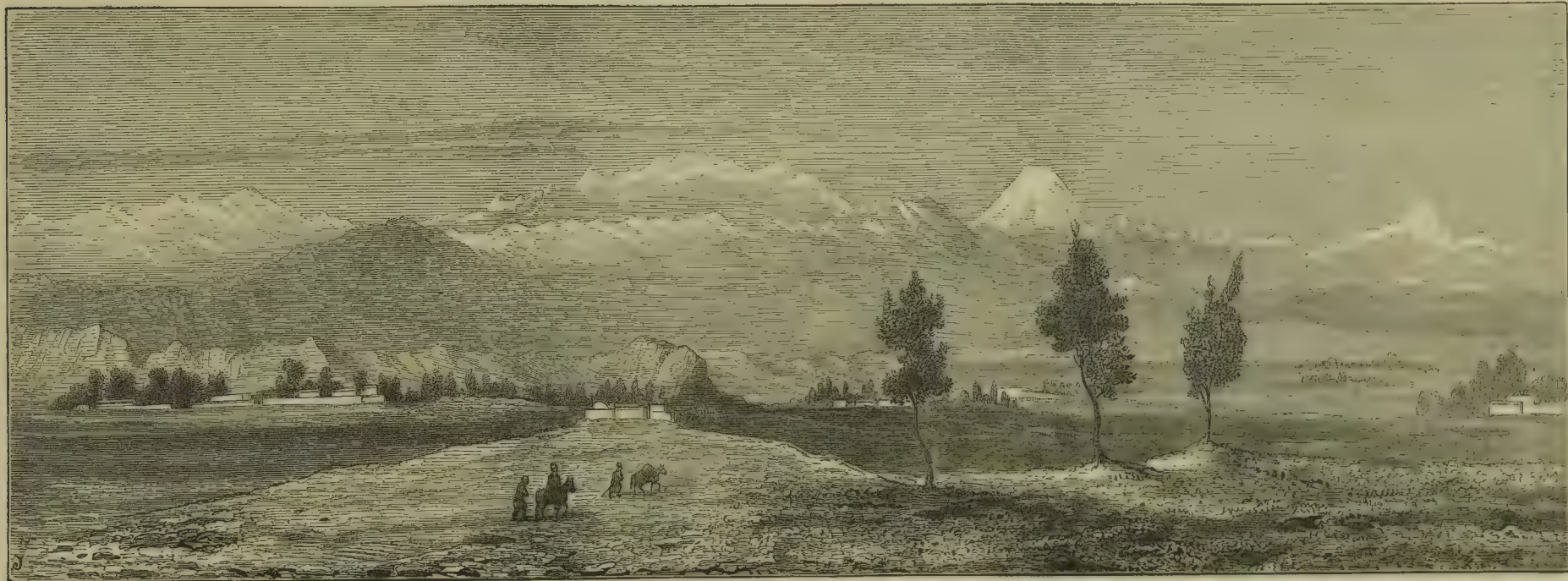


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J. L. H



THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

This astronomical phenomenon, which is simply the apparent passage of the planet across the sun's visible disk, when Venus is between the sun and our earth, will take place early next month. It will afford an opportunity of ascertaining the real distance of our earth from the sun, by comparing the observations taken at different points of the earth's surface. The matter is easily understood. There will, of course, be a difference at those places, in the precise time at which Venus will seem to make her entry and her egress from the sun's face. Let this difference be marked, with the utmost exactness, by scientific observers, furnished with the best instruments, at properly selected stations. The distance between any two of these stations, measured in a straight line through the earth, is the base of a triangle which has for its apex the planet Venus at the moment when Venus seems to cover a given spot on the sun's disk. The angle formed by the two lines from the two different stations on earth to that planet, whose distance is known, can be accurately measured, and it must be equal to the opposite angle formed by prolongation of those two lines, beyond Venus, to two different points of the sun's surface. This gives the means of finding the real size of the sun, whereby, from a comparison of it with his apparent size, we can tell his actual distance from us. There are other methods of solving the problem, which are clearly explained by Mr. Richard A. Proctor, in a small volume he has just published, "Transits of Venus: a Popular Account of Past and Coming Transits" (Longmans). Our readers will not have forgotten that Mr. Proctor contributed to this Journal, a year and a half since, an interesting article upon this subject, with a series of illustrative diagrams. His writings have done much to arouse public attention to the importance of taking advantage of the present scientific opportunity. Her Majesty's Government has provided for astronomical observations at nine stations—three in the Sandwich Islands, under the director-in-chief, Captain Tupman; one at Kerguelen Land, in the Southern Ocean; one at Rodriguez Island, in the Indian Ocean; one at Christchurch, New Zealand; one in Egypt, and two or three in India. Lord Lindsay, at his private cost, has formed a station in Mauritius. There are American, German, Russian, French, and Dutch expeditions for this purpose; and we may hope for some useful results.

We have to thank Mr. C. E. Burton, the astronomer in charge of the Rodriguez station, for sending us photographic views of that island, and representations of the apparatus he has got there, which seems to have been landed and set up in a very efficient condition. Lieutenant W. A. Moore, R.N., of H.M.S. "Shearwater," has also favoured us with a drawing, which shows the operation of raising one of the large instrument cases from the beach to the top of the cliff. The following is Lieutenant Moore's description of the place:—

"The island of Rodriguez, which was selected as one of the chief southern stations for observing the approaching phenomenon of the transit of Venus, is situated in latitude 19½ deg. south, and longitude 63½ deg. east, 360 miles east of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean. It is of volcanic origin. This island measures seventeen miles in length and seven in breadth. A coral fringe surrounds it, which extends, on the average, four or five miles from the coast. The appearance of the island from the sea is very pleasing; the hills, which rise gently from the coast to a height of 1300 ft. above the sea, are covered with tropical verdure and deeply indented by numerous valleys. The population is estimated at 1500, all of whom are creoles or negroes, with the exception of Mr. Bell, the magistrate, and his family, a French priest, a police-sergeant, and two or three policemen. The little settlement of Port Mathurin contains 400 people. A small portion of the island is cultivated with maize, garlic, sweet potatoes, and manioc. Citrons and raspberries grow wild. Very large herds of bullocks are kept, from which the commissariat at Mauritius derives a supply of meat by the monthly schooner, which also conveys the only export of Rodriguez, dried fish. The climate is considered good, on account of the strong south-easterly trade-wind constantly blowing through the island.

"H.M.S. "Shearwater," Commander W. J. L. Wharton, anchored at Port Mathurin, on Aug. 18. After a two days' examination of both coasts of the island, a suitable spot was found for an observatory, and the huts and instruments of the astronomers were landed. This was not accomplished without some difficulty, as the plateau selected was on the summit of a cliff, 50 ft. above the water, and a coral reef lay in front of it, 500 or 600 yards broad, having only 1½ ft. of water on it at the highest tide, so that the boats, with their delicate freight, had to be dragged across to the beach.

"A pair of sheers was formed of the ship's spare spars; and a wire rope was stretched between the top of these sheers and the water-line, by which means every case was successfully raised to the top of the cliff. The astronomers—namely, Lieutenant Neate, R.N.; Mr. Charles E. Burton, F.R.A.S.; and Lieutenant Hoggan, R.N.—were enabled to commence their interesting labours on Aug. 24.

"The "Shearwater," after commencing the survey of Rodriguez, proceeded to run a succession of meridian distances between that island and Mauritius, to ascertain the precise longitude. Lord Lindsay having lent forty-two chronometers to the expedition, it is expected that a very accurate determination of the difference of time between his observatory at Pampelmousses, in Mauritius, and the observatory at Rodriguez will be effected. At the latter station observations of the moon's motion in its orbit, carried over a period of four or five months, will give the absolute difference of time between that place and Greenwich. An attempt will also be made to obtain simultaneous observations of shooting stars at both islands, at certain prearranged dates and places in the heavens. From these observations, if successful, another estimate of the difference of time can be deduced.

"A party of three naturalists also are attached to H.M.S. "Shearwater" for the time being; one of whom, Mr. J. B. Balfour, has already commenced his botanical and geological researches.

"The sketch now sent is taken from the "Shearwater" at Port Mathurin. The temporary encampment of the astronomers is almost immediately in a line with Le Pitou, a sharp hill nearly in the centre of the island, 1170 ft. above the sea. Half a mile to the right stands the village, with a flagstaff pointing out the position of Government House, which will for the present be occupied by the naturalists. A Mauritius schooner is coming out of the narrow coral harbour, formed by a breach in the surf."

The Victoria Cross is to be conferred on Lieutenant (now Captain) Mark Sever Bell, R.E., for his distinguished bravery and zealous, resolute, and self-devoted conduct at the battle of Ordahsu, on Feb. 4, 1874, while serving under the immediate orders of Colonel Sir John Chetham M'Leod, -K.C.B., of the 42nd Regiment, who commanded the advanced guard.

The Dundee Advertiser announces on authority that the reward of £2000 offered some years ago by Lady Franklin for the recovery of the official records of her husband's expedition still holds, and that, over and above, she will be prepared to remunerate anyone who may succeed in recovering them for any outlay to which his research may put him.

SKETCHES IN EASTERN TURKESTAN.

We continue to present Engravings from the sketches made by Captain Chapman, R.A., when, a twelvemonth ago, he accompanied the diplomatic mission of Sir T. Douglas Forsyth, from the British Indian Government to the independent Turkish Principalities of Kashgar and Yarkund. The geographical position of that country, in the very middle of the Asiatic Continent, is to be kept in mind. It is surrounded on three sides, north, west, and south, by massive and continuous ranges, of great height. Two of these—namely, the Thian Shan or Celestial Mountains, which separate Kashgar from Siberia, and the Karakorum and Kuen-lun range, which divides this region from Upper and Middle Tibet, standing parallel with the Himalayas, rank among the loftiest mountains in the world. The western side is inclosed by a vast ridge called the Pamir and Bolor Dagh, which is the true watershed of Asia, sending down the Oxus and Yaxartes rivers (Amoo Daria and Syr Daria) to the Sea of Aral on the one side, and the rivers flowing towards China on the other hand, as well as the Indus, which flows to the Southern Ocean. Captain Chapman writes as follows, upon his sketch of a distant view of those heights from Kashgar:—

"On those rare occasions when the atmosphere is free from haze and dust, the view of the outer ranges of the Pamir, on their eastern side, as obtained from Yangi-Hissar, is particularly fine. The principal snowy peak, known as the Shash-Dagh, is about a hundred miles distant. The entire absence of vegetation makes this landscape singularly barren in its mountain background, though the orchards and green fields at the base of the lower range light up the picture. Until the present year the Pamir, which has been deemed the highest mountain plateau in Asia, was little known to European geographers. The good fortune which has attended the journeyings of the present mission to Kashgar and Yarkund has afforded to some of its members an opportunity of visiting this interesting region, where their labours will, it is hoped, result in a survey of the southern portion of the Pamir. They will perhaps give an exact account of the mountain lake discovered long since by Captain Wood in his adventurous journey to the sources of the Oxus."

The Khirgiz homes in Tiggr-Mati, of which Captain Chapman gives us a sketch, are thus described by him:—

"About sixty miles north of Kashgar, but south of the Great Thian Shan Range, some Khirgiz people have pitched their tents of felt, about 250, on the pasturage of the Tiggr-Mati valley. The families who have thus placed their all under the protection of the Amir of Kashgar, and submit to the authority of his representative, the hereditary chief of Artysk, are outcasts of several tribes, whose winter homes lie in Russian territory beyond the mountains. They have been brought together under three or four of their own aksa káls, or grey-beards. Their tents lie actually beyond the outposts, though the head of the valley to the north-west is commanded by the fort of Tarek, which closes the only route from the Russian fort of Vernoe. In summer time their wanderings lead them to the pastures on the lofty plateau of Aksai, a waste that may safely be termed 'No Man's Land' at any other season than the short period when the heat of the summer makes it acceptable to the Khirgiz. At the time when Tiggr-Mati was visited by the officers of the Yarkund mission, its fair pasture, and the lofty range of mountain limestone, which shuts in the valley, were covered with fresh-fallen snow. At night the thermometer fell below zero, and on one occasion stood at 28 deg.; yet the short period during which we enjoyed Khirgiz hospitality has not proved the least pleasant part of our wanderings. In the daytime our hawks secured us hares and partridges, and our rambles after fossils and other hidden wonders prepared us for long evenings round the bright fire that was always kept burning in the largest of the tents at our disposal. Here the smoke of tobacco was liberally added to the column that made its way through the hole in the roof, which serves as chimney, window, and ventilator, and the toils of the day were discussed in the evening's repose."

The Illustration of the Amir's courtiers and guards assembling to perform the morning salaam at the gate of the Yangi-Shahr, at Kashgar, is accompanied with an historical notice of that building and a description of the Amir's present abode:—

"After the revolt against their authority, which led to Jehangeer Khwoja's arrival from Kokand, at the end of the first quarter of the present century, the Chinese rulers of Altishahr, as Eastern Turkestan was then called, although successful in coping with the rebellion of their Mohammedan subjects, recognised the difficulty of their position as rulers in a country where Islam was professed by the people. Jehangeer was made a prisoner, and suffered death in Pekin A.D. 1829; but very shortly after this the Chinese determined to appoint Mohammedan governors in all the principal cities of Altishahr, retaining their hold on the country solely for the purpose of collecting the revenue, by means of large military garrisons, whose position was secured in fortresses, built in the neighbourhood of each of the large towns, which they overawed. These fortresses were known by the name of Yangi-Shahr, or new town. They vary in size. That constructed at Kashgar was probably designed for the accommodation of some 4000 men. It has thick mud walls, with bastion towers at intervals of about eighty yards, and a low parapet wall near the scarp of a broad and deep ditch. Against anything but rifled artillery these fortifications would prove formidable.

"The Yangi-Shahr of Kashgar held out against the Atalik Ghazee, the present Amir, for some time after he was in possession of the city itself. The defences are left to this day, the same as were originally constructed by the Chinese; but one gate only remains open. A new palace, or 'oord,' has been built inside the fort, where the Amir resides, and where business of all kinds is transacted. It is remarkable for its simplicity, having in no part of it any pretence at ornamentation. In the form of its courtyards, and otherwise, it recalls the description of the palace of the Tartar chief, Kublai Khan, built at Khanbalig (the modern Pekin). Of this Colonel Yule, in an extract from Rashid-uddin, speaks thus:—'The outer court is assigned to the palace guards; the next to the nobles, who assemble every morning; the third is occupied by the great officers of the army, and the fourth by the Sovereign's most intimate associates.' The practice of a morning assembly in the Amir's palace, where officials attend to pay their respects or transact business, is rigidly kept up; and the arrangement of the various orders of courtiers and guards, on state occasions, in their respective places, is not a little imposing. If there is a studied simplicity in the Amir's palace and court, the most punctilious etiquette is observed, and a visitor cannot fail to realise that the mud walls of the oorda really belong to the palace of a Sovereign."

The directors of the Great Northern, the Great Western, the Lancashire and Yorkshire, the London and North-Western, the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and the North-Eastern Railway have decided not to discontinue second-class carriages, and to maintain differential fares between first and second classes.

FOG.

Overhead, depths of heavy brown, across which, from time to time, fresh layers of the gloomy pall seem drawn; around, a thick, substantial, clammy atmosphere, that weighs one down and clings and hangs to one; beneath, pavements and roadways slippery and muddy, with gutters undistinguishable in the gloom and liable to be used as footpaths by unwary travellers. Into one's eyes, blinded and watery, presses the acrid stinging solid now serving for air; one's limbs and hands and feet are chilled, "sticky," and damp; one's hair is clotted and tangled, and one's nose smarts and is probably crimson—though, as it is invisible, this is unimportant. One's voice has disappeared entirely, leaving as its ghost a harsh, tuneless sound, like a worn-out hurdy-gurdy; and with it have gone one's spirits and one's temper. All that one eats or drinks has mingled with it the flavour and the odour of the dun atmosphere; it "burrs" one's throat and clings round teeth and palate, making even more miserable that most depressing of all things, a breakfast by lamplight—coffee, toast, eggs, everything, might, as far as taste goes, be red herrings or Indian soy.

Without, confusion is worse confounded. The streets might be squares, the parks alleys, Piccadilly the borough, and Houndsditch St. John's-wood, for any distinction visible between them. At best, one can dimly discern gaunt houses shrouded in a dingy mist, that moves slowly along them and creeps round portico and balcony, down area, and over roof and chimney: at worst, visible darkness clothes the huge, helpless city, heaving in its discomfort like a giant with the nightmare. Lamps are lighted, just powerful enough to prevent wayfarers from walking into the lamp-posts; link-boys, rushing about in frantic delight, indistinct but noisy will-o'-the-wisps, remind us of the good old times when on any but the brightest moonlight nights they were needed all over London. Omnibuses walk more slowly than the average hearse down even the broadest and safest streets; and cabmen make it three miles from Charing-cross to Regent-circus. City offices, gloomy at midsummer, are now pitch-dark, in spite of their lighted lamps; asthmatic principals and head-clerks, though surly, are helpless; and office-boys hold high jinks, while schools enjoy the novelty of a holiday in the school-room instead of out of it: but all the rest of London is miserable, except, perhaps, lucky young lovers out for a walk, who can go arm-in-arm through the darkness, unseen and unreviewed. Crossing-sweepers, too, make a good time of it as far as earning money goes; but their life in such weather must be a very hard and miserable one—passed in cold and damp, one long shiver in scanty clothes far from being wind or water proof.

All is dusky, dirty, miserable. No element of the picturesque is ever to be found, except, perhaps, an occasional group gathered round a strong light, when the ruddy haze brings out the keen town-faces in bold relief against the deep, dark background. Beyond this there is no pleasure, no amusement, no profit—except for the unwearied pickpocket—in the universal darkness. The parks are dismal swamps, all exhibitions and concert-rooms deserted areas of gloom; in the theatres sit thin and ghostly audiences who weep bitterly at burlesques and cannot even sleep in comfort through a tragedy. The busy rattle and roar of London streets is reduced to a hoarse grumbling, choked by the heavy curtain of the atmosphere it tries in vain to pierce. The sky, the streets and houses, the green of the squares, and the stately spires of churches, bright human faces, cheery voices, rattling carts and gay shop-windows—all are hidden, lost, dead to us. The city sleeps in a heavy stupor; in the morning we find that the gloom of the night has not gone—we move and live in darkness, we breathe and eat it: against it sun and moon, gas and benzoline, alike are powerless. This is a London Fog.

There is nothing like it—it is quite unequalled; and its reputation has spread so far and wide that, though a genuine "pea-soup fog" is always a new experience and a thorough surprise to a countryman, anything short of it is taken quite for granted as the normal state of the London atmosphere. During last year's longest fog, a country friend coming to town on an "off-day," when over-the-way was tolerably visible, was quite astonished to hear that even in the city it was not "always so in November." He seemed scarcely to believe that we ever saw the sun here in autumn, though when we were gently satirical upon his ignorance he was certainly more than revenged by the envy he aroused in us by his description of the rural equivalent of a slight London fog, through which he had passed that morning in the train—a silvery haze over fields and lanes, out of which trees and hedges rose with a magical clearness, dyads in the fairest gauzy drapery, against the delicate blue sky. Our pea-soup atmosphere is represented in the country by a heavy white mist; but a fog not of the worst order is transformed into waving and floating exhalations which add a new charm to the russet hedges, with their leaves changing to bright colours of red and yellow; to the broad brown fields, to the weird woods—tall and bare, with rooks' nests high up in their desolate branches, like traitors' heads in old times on Temple Bar—to the rippled glassy rivers and clear cold sky of autumn in the country.

This is pure beauty, especially when compared to the unredemed ugliness of a London fog; nor is it attended with the drawbacks of deadened taste, of watering eyes, and of danger in the streets, which are inseparable companions of the other. Yet, how many of us would change town life, with its yearly fogs, its daily sights of squalor, and dirt, and monotony of stuccoed respectability, for the country, with all its varying and perpetual beauty, fresh winds, and free, blue sky? Most country people from the bottom of their hearts pity the poor cockney, who, in his daily walks, sees on each side only unchanging brick and stone, flagged pavement beneath his feet, and smoky sky above him; but he is quite as much at a loss to understand how they can exist without the bustle and variety, the "go" and spirit and excitement of life in London—where, though misery, discontent, envy, hatred and all uncharitableness are only too possible, and loathsome sights and sounds are never very far away, there is yet one evil, dreaded perhaps most of all, that he need never encounter—Dulness, which no man with eyes and ears need suffer for half an hour while the Strand, Regent-street, the City, keep up their never-ending flow of restless life. Even the noise of crowded streets is better than the unchanging quiet of a country road, says the Londoner; here at least are human beings, all at work, alive, moving quickly and earnestly; in a word, this hurry and noise and strife are life, and rural existence is but vegetation.

Life, and hurry, and noise? Why are all sounds gradually becoming deadened, all sights wrapped every moment in denser veils of dun smoky mist? "She comes! The sable throne behold of Night primæval"—it is the Fog, which had for a dozen hours cleared off, returning gloomier and deeper than before. All sights and sounds are reduced to dull, heavy phantoms—"nor human spark is left, nor glimpse divine"—gloom, confusion, unwilling and murmuring stillness shroud the city, over which Fog sits enthroned, a despot subversive of established order; and soon

Thy dread empire, Chaos, is restored;
Light dies before thy uncreating word.
Thy hand, great Anarch! lets the curtain fall,
And universal darkness buries all.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

As a general rule, however interesting they may be, extra-Parliamentary utterances are rarely curious or imbued with any originality of circumstance. But in a recent instance the surroundings of one of them were remarkable and peculiar; for Mr. Cavendish Bentinck appeared in what may be called a singular place, and delivered himself with a special singularity, though he is usually singular enough. It might well have been thought that office would have sobered down the honourable gentleman's Parliamentary and general vivacity and eccentricity; but he seems to have got far beyond that stage of the process of transmutation of character and sayings and doings, and to have risen to the height of a moral—nay, of a religious—teacher, and an ardent professor of religious toleration. The platform which he chose for the development of his new ideas—new, at least, to the public—was, of all places, a bazaar, which was got up for increasing the funds for the erection of a Wesleyan chapel. He was fervent on the growth of infidelity and atheism, and emphatically declared, as a member of Parliament and a member of the Government (one who presumably knows the minds of the Prime Minister, Mr. Gathorne Hardy, and Lord Salisbury, and who spoke under their inspiration), that the policy of the Ministry would in no way whatever be offensive to Nonconformists; on the contrary, their liberty of action would be protected, their religious independence respected, and every portion of property they held would be maintained to the utmost. Coming from a Secretary of a department of the Government, one of a body of officials who are not usually considered free agents themselves, or allowed to give out any opinions, these declarations are rather startling; but it may be that Mr. Bentinck is just the man who would be taken into the secret confidence of a reticent Premier, and chosen as the best instrument of telling the world some of his intended policy. There may be, however, another way in which these utterances may be accounted for. They were made in Whitehaven, the borough which Mr. Bentinck represented before the Ballot became the mode of taking votes; and this, perhaps, renders necessary the courting of a powerful section of the constituency, a necessity which did not exist in Whitehaven in the good times of open voting and territorial influence.

In Hackney, the members for that borough have been vindicating their claims to its representation by vigorous speeches. Everyone who is acquainted with the House knows that Mr. John Holms is a terse elocutionist, a close reasoner, and prompt with apt if homely illustrations. In the House he generally sticks fast to the subject on which he is engaged; and, so to speak, dissects it into fragments. When before his constituents he shows that he can also deal with public affairs multifariously with telling effect, and that he can create interest despite a somewhat dry, hard manner, with which the tones of his voice are in consonance. He is on all points of opinion decided and outspoken, so that it may be taken that his declaration that Mr. Gladstone must resume the leadership of the Liberal party is the outcome of a genuine conviction. His putting that gentleman's claim to re-election to the leadership which he has vacated partly on the fact that he had proved himself worthy of being the champion of Protestantism in this country, by the publication of his anti-Vatican pamphlet, proves that at least one person has answered to the bid, which profane and cynical people say Mr. Gladstone intended to make when he fell on the Papal decrees. Of course Mr. Fawcett is always powerful, even wonderful, in his speeches; but perhaps he is not always exactly what may be called agreeable when he is delivering them. On the occasion to which reference is being made he would seem, even when he was at the height of his ardour, which is no common state, to preserve a certain pleasantness of vein. He, too, was explicit and emphatic on the desirability, if not the necessity, of Mr. Gladstone's resuming the lead of the Liberals; but it might be fancied that when he was speaking sarcastically of Mr. Disraeli's obvious proclivity towards a policy which should identify himself with Protestantism, he had a sly inner thought that it was the Prime Minister's candidature for public opinion in that respect that awakened in Mr. Gladstone the idea of publishing his pamphlet. Much of Mr. Fawcett's speech was directed to a question out of which, in the lack of more burning and blazing and sinking and destroying ones, the Liberal party might make political capital—namely, the social and economic condition of the agricultural peasantry and their claim to the exercise of the franchise. As may be supposed, this topic was treated exhaustively, with the breadth that belongs to Mr. Fawcett's ideas and the rhetorical felicity and force which are inseparable from his deliverances.

It has often been remarked that in filling the comparatively subordinate offices in his Government Mr. Disraeli took especial pains to put the rising young statesmen into places where they could by no possibility have play for their crotchets, which is the sarcastic word for designating their devotion to particular questions. Most people would have wagered that in the distribution of places Lord Henry Lennox, if he was not created First Lord of the Admiralty (for which post his experience of, and the ability he has displayed in, the conduct of naval matters in the House many people believed him to be as fitted or more than most of those out of whom the choice had to be made), would return to his former berth of secretary to that department. But it was otherwise decreed, and Lord Henry Lennox became Chief Commissioner of Works. In making this appointment Mr. Disraeli somewhat deviated from his plan of selecting departmental neophytes, for Lord Henry Lennox has been not undistinguished in æsthetic debates in the House, and there was sufficient reason to believe that he could adequately perform the duties of head gardener, superintending architect, keeper of the art-treasures, and housekeeper to the public buildings of the metropolis and the country. It is not doubtful that he is performing his multifarious functions with zeal and discretion. How numerous and how various those functions are may be ascertained from an amusing account of them which he gave the other day in a speech to his constituents. But wherein he excels in answering the many, very many, teasing questions about the doings of his department which are constantly put to him in the House. There are courtesy, not too studied, a frankness in acknowledging shortcomings, and a tact in making things seem better than they are supposed to be; a ripple of humour, or a gentle repartee; so that altogether he invariably leaves his interrogator, to use a perhaps vulgar expression, in a hole, and on the general audience an impression that his department, considering the imperfection of human affairs, is the best of all possible departments, and the best administered. Now, to do all this requires a happy faculty—it is one which Mr. Disraeli possesses in no ordinary degree—and in this respect Lord Henry Lennox shows that he is no unworthy disciple of the political and parliamentary Gamaliel, who has had in no ordinary degree a part in the noble Lord's training for statesmanship.

Mr. J. W. Pease, M.P., on Thursday week, laid the foundation-stone of a public hall for Staindrop, to be erected in memory of the late Mr. T. F. Scarth.

MUSIC.

THE SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

This leviathan institution opened its forty-third season, yesterday (Friday) week, with a fine performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," an oratorio that has for some years exercised almost the same power of public attraction as Handel's "Messiah." The reappearance of Sir Michael Costa at the conductor's desk, at which he has now presided since the season of 1848-9, was recognised by loud and continued applause from the large audience which occupied Exeter Hall before the commencement of the oratorio, with the progress of which the numbers became augmented to such an extent that there was scarcely a place unfilled.

The chorus has undergone great revision and improvement; the sopranos are particularly fresh in quality of tone, and the entire choir is probably now superior to what it has been at any previous stage of the society's career. The opening chorus, "Help, Lord," at once proved this, and further evidence was afterwards given, especially in the movements "Yet doth the Lord," "Blessed are the men," the several invocations to Baal, the grand climax to the first part, "Thanks be to God," "Be not afraid," "He watching over Israel," &c.

The orchestra was likewise noticeable for improved execution in the department of stringed instruments, and the general rendering of the oratorio, in both the respects now referred to, was highly satisfactory.

The solo portions were also well given; the principal soprano part by Madame Otto-Alvsleben, the contralto by Miss Sterling (who was encored in "O rest in the Lord"), the tenor by Mr. Vernon Rigby, and (most important of all), the baritone by Mr. Santley. Miss Ellen Horne sang nicely the soprano part of the duet (with Miss Sterling) "Zion spreadeth her hands," and in other instances; and Miss Marion Severn gave the contralto air "Woe unto them" with great feeling; Messrs. Carter, Henry, and Smythson having contributed good service in some of the concerted pieces. Mr. Willing presided at the organ as usual.

The next performance will be on Dec. 11, when Handel's "Solomon" will be given; "The Messiah" being announced for the following Friday.

The seventh of the new series of the Saturday afternoon concerts at the Crystal Palace brought forward—for the first time in England—Liszt's second pianoforte concerto (in A), the pianist having been Mr. Dannreuther, by whom the first concerto (in E flat) of the same master was played at a Crystal Palace concert in January, 1872. The work performed on Saturday is scarcely so interesting as its predecessor, while being, perhaps, still more difficult. There are striking passages, together with that inequality and effort which are more or less observable in most of Liszt's larger works. The concerto was very finely played by Mr. Dannreuther. The symphony was Spohr's No. 1, in E flat, which has many times been heard at the Philharmonic and other concerts, but was given for the first time at the Crystal Palace. This fine work was admirably played by the orchestra, as were the commencing and concluding overtures—Mozart's to "Zauberflöte" and Mendelssohn's to "Ruy Blas." Madame Campobello-Sinico and Mr. Vernon Rigby were the vocalists, the solos of the former having been the recitative and romance—"Selva opaca," from Rossini's "Tell," and Haydn's canzonet, "My mother bids me bind my hair"—Mr. Rigby having sung the air, "Refrain thy voice from weeping" (from Mr. Arthur Sullivan's oratorio, "The Light of the World"), and Schubert's song, "The Secret" ("Geheimes"). At this week's concert Handel's "L'Allegro" and "Il Penseroso" will be given, for the first time at the Crystal Palace.

This week's Monday Popular Concert brought back Madame Norman-Néruda as leading violinist. The selection commenced with Haydn's ever fresh and melodious quartet in E flat (No. 3 of op. 71), and concluded with Schubert's beautiful concertante rondo brillante in B minor, in which the lady violinist was associated with Miss Agnes Zimmerman as pianist, the latter having previously displayed her highly cultivated powers in Mendelssohn's solo sonata in E major (op. 6) and in Schumann's second trio, which was admirably played, with the co-operation of Madame Néruda and Signor Piatti. Mr. Santley was the vocalist, his songs having been the aria, "Per pietà," of the old Church composer Stradella, and Schubert's "Erl-King," the latter of which was encored, and replied to by giving Mr. Hatton's song, "To Anthea." Sir J. Benedict occupied his accustomed place as accompanist at the pianoforte.

The Covent-Garden Promenade Concerts have now completed a successful season, which began on Aug. 8. The principal event of last week occurred too late for specific detail. The Thursday night's performance was appropriated to the benefit of Sir Julius Benedict, who has conducted several of the special concerts of the season, and again directed on the occasion now referred to, when the first part of the programme consisted of an interesting selection from his compositions, orchestral and vocal, operatic and sacred. An extra night is to be given, on Monday next, for the benefit of Mr. J. Russell, the acting manager.

The Royal Albert Hall Concerts of this week—the third since their commencement—have preserved the same nightly order of programme as heretofore. Accordingly, Monday was a ballad night, Tuesday an English night, Wednesday's selection was classical, Thursday was devoted to oratorio ("Israel in Egypt"), Friday (yesterday) was a Wagner night, and this (Saturday) evening is to be a popular night.

The presentation of the testimonial to Sir Julius Benedict was to have taken place on the seventieth anniversary of his birthday, Nov. 27; but the event has been postponed to New-Year's Day, in consequence of the testimonial not being ready. This consists of a service of plate, which is now being manufactured by Messrs. Smith and Son, of King-street, Covent-garden, from designs by Mr. H. Barrett.

Signor Verdi, the composer, has been created an Italian senator, by a decree of King Victor Emmanuel.

At the last sitting of the miners' conference at Barnsley Mr. Macdonald, M.P., was re-elected president.

Birkenhead election resulted, on Tuesday, in the return of Mr. M'Iver, the Conservative candidate, by a large majority over Mr. Stitt, Liberal; the numbers being—M'Iver, 3421; Stitt, 2474.

A circular has been issued by the Local Government Board, drawing the attention of the various assessment committees to the Rating Act of last Session. The main object of the Act was to abolish the exemptions from rating which have hitherto existed with respect to land used for a plantation or a wood; rights of sporting, when severed from the occupation of the land; and mines, other than collieries. In this circular the board at Whitehall indicates the principles which will govern the assessment of the several kinds of property now rendered subject to local rates. The application of those principles to individual cases will rest with the assessment committee.

THEATRES.

The reopening of the Opera Comique on Saturday night was signalled by the production of a new opera bouffe extravaganza by F. C. Burnand, entitled "Ixion Re-wheeled," founded on the same story as was "Ixion; or, the Man at the Wheel," by the same author, produced at the Royalty Theatre some thirteen years ago. The piece was mounted with new and effective scenery by Mr. W. L. Telbin, and magnificent costumes designed by Mr. Alfred Thompson. But, with all the advantage of additional stage-accessories, whether the present "Ixion" will be as successful as its predecessor is at present problematical. It abounds in puns and witticisms, many of which—as, for instance, those relating to Professors Huxley and Tyndall—told with wonderful effect upon the audience. There were also some clever hits at Mrs. Progers and other notabilities. But the entertainment is lengthy, and needs to be deprived of certain excrescences. For this reason, probably (we confess ourselves at a loss to discover any other), towards the termination of the performance the audience became restive, and ultimately rebellious. The dissentient voices proved to be in the minority, and the curtain fell amidst loud cries for the author. The music, selected and composed by W. C. Levey, was on the whole effective; the educational-question song, "Happy Gods! and free from care," and "Oh, Juno! you know!" sung with charming effect by Miss Laverne in the character of Ixion, being deservedly encored. The acting was unexceptionable. Mr. J. Stoye was an excellent Jupiter; Mr. Richard Temple an efficient Pluto; Miss Amy Sheridan a graceful Venus; Miss Eleanor Bufton a magnificent Juno; and last, not least, Miss Pattie Laverne a sprightly and vivacious Ixion. In fact, to the determined energy and excellent vocalisation of this last-named lady much of the success of the evening was due. The extravaganza was preceded by a petite comedy, by Mr. John Oxenford and Mr. Horace Wigan, called "Love in a Fix," produced many years ago at the Strand Theatre, under the title of "Widow's Weeds." This stormy first night can scarcely be accepted as a just criterion, and the success of "Ixion Re-wheeled" must be tested by succeeding representations.

The drama of "Hand and Glove," by Messrs. George Conquest and Paul Merritt, has been transplanted from the boards of the Grecian to those of the Surrey Theatre. It abounds in melodramatic situations, peculiarly acceptable to a transpontine audience. The comic scenes are of a novel and exciting character; and as the dramatis personæ are all efficiently represented, we augur for the piece a successful run.

"La Fille de Madame Angot" has been revived at the Gaiety, Miss Constance Loseby appearing in the character of Clairette, Miss Katrine Munro essaying that of Mdle. Lange. Both ladies received an enthusiastic welcome; and in their hands the opera is likely to lose none of its deserved popularity.

Mr. John Hollingshead has nearly completed his arrangements for the production of the "Merry Wives of Windsor" at the Gaiety, on Saturday, Dec. 19. Mr. Arthur Sullivan is writing some music for the piece; the scenery will be by Messrs. Grieve, Gordon, and Harford; and the dresses by Alfred Thompson.

Mr. Hollingshead has taken the Holborn Amphitheatre, which he will open on the same night with a large operatic and pantomimic company.

The New York journals of the 9th contain long accounts of the demonstration on the occasion of Miss Cushman's retirement from the stage. On the evening of the 7th she appeared for the last time on the New York boards, in the rôle of Lady Macbeth. The theatre was crowded with celebrities, political and artistic; and at the close of the performance Mr. Cullen Bryant presented Miss Cushman with a laurel-wreath in token of her sovereignty of the tragic stage. Miss Cushman was escorted from the theatre to the Fifth Avenue Hotel by a torchlight procession. The torches were borne, says the *New York Herald*, by men of wealth and eminence. Upwards of 15,000 persons took part in the demonstration.

ASTRONOMICAL OCCURRENCES IN DECEMBER.

(From the "Illustrated London Almanack.")

The Moon will be near to Mars during the morning hours of the 4th day; the nearest approach will be at 4h. a.m.; and also near to Jupiter, which is situated to the left of both Mars and the Moon; she is near Mercury on the 7th. On the 9th, the day of new Moon, she will be near Venus, and to Saturn on the 13th; and some distance to the right of Jupiter on the morning of the last day. Her phases or times of change are:—

New Moon on the 9th at 6 minutes after 0h. in the morning.	
First Quarter " 16th " 16 " 0 " afternoon.	
Full Moon " 23rd " 56 " 4 " morning.	
Last Quarter " 30th " 38 " 2 " afternoon.	

She is nearest to the earth at midnight on the 20th, and most distant from it on the morning of the 5th.

MERCURY is a morning star, rising at 5h. 43m. a.m. on the 1st, or 2h. 3m. before sunrise, which interval gradually decreases to 1h. 56m. by the 6th, to 1h. 43m. by the 11th, to 1h. 25m. by the 16th, and to 1h. 7m. by the 21st (the planet rising on this day at 6h. 59m. a.m.), and at 7h. 38m. on the morning of the last day, preceding sunrise by 31m. He is therefore very favourably situated for observation at the beginning of this month. He is at his greatest western elongation (20 deg. 21 min.) on the 2nd, near the Moon on the 7th, Venus on the 19th, and in his descending node on the 22nd.

VENUS sets on the 6th at 4h. 4m. p.m., or 13m. after sunset; from the 9th this planet sets in daylight to the end of the year. On the 16th she rises at 6h. 55m. a.m., or 1h. 7m. before sunrise; on the 26th at 5h. 48m. a.m., or 2h. 20m. before sunrise; and on the last day at 5h. 24m. a.m., or 2h. 45m. before the Sun. She is in her ascending node on the 8th, near the Moon on the 9th, in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the morning of the same day; and is stationary among the stars on the 29th. She crosses a part of the Sun's disc on the 9th, invisible from England. She will first touch the Sun's edge at 1h. 46m. a.m., and the last contact will be at 6h. 27m. a.m., Greenwich time.

MARS is still a morning star: rising on the 7th at 2h. 48m. a.m., or 5h. 5m. before sunrise; on the 17th at 2h. 42m. a.m., or 5h. 21m. before the Sun; on the 27th at 2h. 36m. a.m., or preceding sunrise by 5h. 32m.; and on the last day at 2h. 34m. a.m., or 5h. 35m. before sunrise. He is due south on the 15th at 8h. 2m. a.m. He is near the Moon on the 4th, and Jupiter on the 16th.

JUPITER is a morning star: rising on the 7th at 3h. 10m. a.m., or 4h. 43m. before the Sun; on the 17th at 2h. 40m. a.m., or preceding sunrise by 5h. 23m.; on the 27th at 2h. 9m. a.m., or 5h. 59m. before sunrise; and on the last day at 1h. 57m. a.m., or preceding the Sun by 6h. 12m. He is due south on the 15th at 8h. 4m. a.m. He is near the Moon on the 4th.

SATURN sets at 8h. 22m. p.m. on the 4th, at 7h. 48m. p.m. on the 14th, at 7h. 13m. p.m. on the 24th, and 6h. 50m. p.m. on the last day. He is due south on the 15th at 3h. 18m. p.m. He is near the Moon on the 13th.



THE MACCARTE LION.



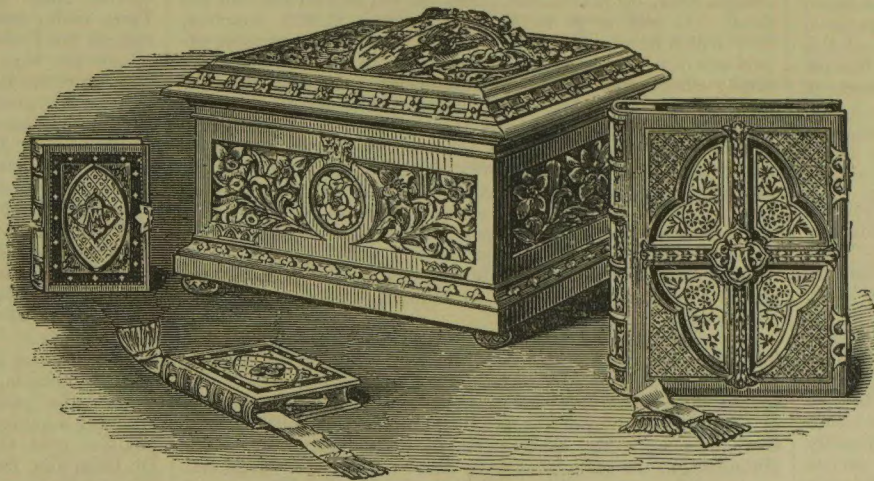
SEAWEED GATHERERS.

FROM THE PICTURE BY E. DUNCAN.

GIFT BIBLE FOR ROYALTY.

It was mentioned, in our Court news of last week, that her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Edinburgh, on the Monday, received at Buckingham Palace a deputation of ladies, headed by the Hon. Mrs. Kinnaird, to present her with a Bible. This was the gift of 7572 maidens of England, with their congratulations on the marriage of her Royal Highness. The address was read by Miss Nugent. The Duchess graciously accepted their gift, and said that it was one which she most truly valued, as she did also their kind words by which it was accompanied.

The preparation of the Bible and Casket was intrusted to Messrs. Houghton and Gunn, of New Bond-street. The designs, by Mr. G. R. Clarke, are of Gothic character. The Bible is bound in royal purple morocco, with white inlaid centre and scarlet cross. The whole is richly and effectively overlaid in gold. The edges of the volume are elaborately illu-



BIBLE AND CASKET PRESENTED TO THE DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH BY MAIDENS OF ENGLAND.

minated. The fore-edge bears the Royal and Imperial arms, and, on scrolls above and beneath, "Thy word is Truth" and "Search the Scriptures." On the top is an anchor, with the text, "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul;" and on the bottom, "I am The Way, the Truth, and The Life." Within the Bible are richly illuminated vellum pages. The dedication page presents a design of much artistic merit, with a suitable inscription. The casket, of British oak, is an exquisite specimen of carved workmanship by Messrs. Rattee and Kett, of Cambridge. On the top, emblazoned on a shield, are the arms of the Duke and Duchess, surmounted by a coronet, and surrounded by the national emblems—the rose, shamrock, and thistle. The morning and evening portions of the "Daily Light," a devotional handbook, were presented together with the Bible. The binding and casket of this are in harmony with those of the Bible. A volume containing the subscribers' name accompanied the presentation.



SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION IN PARIS.

THE LATE MR. TOM HOOD.

The death of this clever and pleasant writer—whose [father, Thomas Hood, the famous humourist and poet, has an abiding-place among the ornaments of English literature—took place last week, after an illness of some weeks. He was but in the fortieth year of his age, having been born at Lake House, Wanstead, on Jan. 19, 1835. He was educated at University College School and Louth Grammar School, and at Pembroke College, Oxford. His first work, "Pen and Pencil Pictures," written at Oxford, was published in 1854-5. It was followed by "Quips and Cranks" and "The Daughters of King Daher," and other poems, in 1861; "Loves of Tom Tucker and Little Bo-Peep, Rhyming Rigmarole," in 1862; "Vere Vereker's Vengeance: a Sensation," in 1864; "Captain Master's Children: a Novel," and "Jingles and Jokes for the Little Folks," in 1865. "A Disputed Inheritance," "Golden Heart," "Money's Worth," and "Love and Valour," 1871, are amongst other novels he has written. He was also author of "Rules of Rhyme," a guide to versification. He has written several books for the amusement of children. He illustrated some of his father's comic verses, being skilled with the pencil as well as the pen. He was appointed editor of *Fun* in May, 1865, and has made that journal, to say the least of its merits, a rival to *Punch*. His sister, Mrs. Freeling Broderip, has written tales and poems which have found acceptance with their readers. The Portrait of Mr. Tom Hood is from a photograph by his friend Mr. Charles Watkins, of Chancery-lane.

EXPLOSION IN A PARIS FACTORY.

The northern suburbs of Paris were startled, on Thursday week, between six and seven in the morning, by the report of an explosion, which must have reminded many citizens of the alarms to which they were subject four years ago. It had occurred at St. Denis, a few miles outside the city, at the works of M. Poirier, a manufacturer of colours used in dyeing. According to some accounts, a cauldron containing ether at a very high temperature blew up. Others attribute the accident to a



THE LATE MR. TOM HOOD.

very explosive product called nitrate of methylum, the manufacture of which was kept secret, and was carried on in a shed at the extremity of the works, guarded by an iron railing, and accessible only to the foreman and a few of the hands. It is supposed that someone must have entered the shed with a pipe or a lamp, in violation of the rule which prohibited entry with a light till eight o'clock, when the chemist of the establishment made a daily inspection. Some of the adjacent buildings were destroyed, and in the ruins was found the body of a young man employed in the factory who had only been married two months. Three other workmen were so seriously injured that they are not expected to survive, and about a dozen others had to be taken to the hospital, but are likely to recover. Had the explosion occurred an hour later two hundred men would have been in the works, and the loss of life must have been much greater. The flames were soon extinguished, but the damage is estimated at 400,000f. The railway station and other buildings in the town were also injured. M. Poirier was insured. The French papers complain that the decrees forbidding dangerous or noxious manufactures in the neighbourhood of dwelling-houses are not stringently enforced. They contend that when, through the growth of a town, factories originally isolated have become surrounded by buildings, their removal should be rigorously insisted upon. In this instance there have been several deaths, and other men are in a hopeless condition.

THE MACCARTE LION.

This is the young African lion of Manders's menagerie, which killed his unfortunate keeper, Thomas Maccarte, while performing tricks with five lions together in one cage, during an exhibition at Bolton, on Jan. 3, 1872. The lion died in January of the present year; but his skin has been treated by the skilful taxidermist and naturalist, Mr. Rowland Ward, of Harley-street and Piccadilly, with very fine effect. We have done justice to the scientific and artistic truth of Mr. Ward's reproductions of animal forms by a correct anatomical use of their outer natural covering, which is not stuffed, but placed on a cast moulded to show the muscles in action. The

lion, in this instance, appears in quite a dramatic attitude and character. He is supposed to have been wounded by a bullet just behind the shoulder, and he sits howling with rage, looking out for his enemy. We present an illustration of this mighty beast, the original of which is now on view at Messrs. Ward and Co.'s establishment in Piccadilly, near the corner of St. James's-street.

NEW BOOKS.

A MEDICAL MAN OF THE WORLD.

The personal experiences of a veteran fashionable physician, who from the beginning of this century has practised and conversed with choice society in every nation of Europe, are likely to be worth reading. We are much indebted, therefore, to Miss Paulina Granville for publishing (through Messrs. H. S. King and Co.) *The Autobiography of A. B. Granville, M.D., F.R.S.* The contents of these two substantial volumes, except the closing chapter written by herself, are from her late father's hand. He died in March, 1872, at Dover, in the eighty-ninth year of his age. The history of his busy and sociable life, to the time of his return from St. Petersburg in 1849, had been consigned by him to a narrative, very clearly and agreeably written, which is now placed before us. It passes in review before us, in a pleasant and lively manner, a rapidly varying succession of scenes and people. The scene is shifted from Italy, his birthplace, to Greece and Turkey; then to Spain and Portugal, next to the West Indies; afterwards to England, with a year or two divided between the cities of Italy, Geneva, and Paris; subsequently to which, from 1815 onward, Dr. Granville holds a good position in London, but is often found at the capitals of France, Germany, and Russia. He becomes acquainted with many illustrious and distinguished persons. Diverse interests—professional, scientific, and social—engage his attention. His remarks upon all that he has met with are guided by the tact and discretion, the good sense and good humour, which are not less indispensable to a physician than to a diplomatist. We should think Dr. Granville would have made an excellent British Minister or chargé d'affaires at any foreign Court. Such an appointment is possible for a citizen of the United States, but not for a subject of her Majesty, whose representatives must be of the aristocratic class. In any case, the life here recorded was one of useful and honourable activity. Following the course of these memoirs, we shall find ample entertainment, while the writer does not lose our esteem.

Augustus Bozzi Granville was a Milanese by birth and parentage. His father, Carlo Bozzi, of an old Lombard family, was Postmaster-General under the Imperial Austrian Government before the first French Revolution. The mother of Dr. Granville was also an Italian, of the Rapazzini family; but her mother was English, a daughter of Mr. Bevil Granville, from Cornwall. Hence the name of Granville was taken by Augustus Bozzi, upon his naturalisation as a British subject. His elder brother, we are told, became Governor of Como and of Bergamo. Their father was a fine old gentleman, living to the age of eighty-three without a grey hair, a wrinkle, or a lost tooth. But their maternal grandfather, Cavaliere Rapazzini, who likewise held a government office, came within eighteen months of being a hundred years old. His life extended through the last century, till he died in 1799, never having known a day of ill-health. Dr. Granville seems to have inherited a larger share of vitality than is commonly given to mankind.

While yet a schoolboy, in May, 1786, the writer of this autobiography saw the first entry of General Napoleon Buonaparte into Milan, after the victory of Lodi. With other youths of Lombardy, Augustus Bozzi shared the infection of French mock-heroic Republican zeal. But for this, he would have been educated by the Jesuits for a priest, instead of which he was sent to the University of Pavia, for the study of medicine. Among his teachers were Spallanzani, Volta, Scarpa, and Rasori. Among his early friends were Ugo Foscolo, Monti, and Cattaneo; Manzoni, too, was his fellow-scholar. These names are of European note. Young Bozzi indulged his juvenile enthusiasm for political oratory, the classic drama, architecture, and music. He got into a scrape with the police, but was gently treated, being let off, after a brief arrest, with two weeks' compulsory penance in a convent. Having got his diploma and walked the hospital for some knowledge of surgery, he resolved to quit Milan. His motive for leaving home was to evade the military conscription, as he did not wish, being an Italian patriot, to serve the French. He first went to Genoa, then joined a travelling theatrical company, and put himself under Austrian protection at Venice, where his elder brother resided. The brother was a magistrate, and the youngster, by a strange coincidence, appeared before his tribunal. In 1803, the twentieth year of his age, Augustus Bozzi fairly started in the world. Having gone down the Adriatic to Corfu, where he quickly learnt to talk Romaic or Modern Greek, he fortunately met with an influential patron. This was Mr. W. R. Hamilton, afterwards Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and finally Ambassador at Naples. He was then attached to our Embassy at Constantinople. To this gentleman the young Milanese surgeon owed a first step, and several later steps, in his professional and official career. The appointment of physician to the Embassy, indeed, he did not permanently hold; but he became a medical officer in the Sultan's fleet, then allied with our own.

The chapters describing what he saw in Turkey, Greece, Albania, Syria, and other shores of the Levant, are as fresh as if they had been written last summer. But they relate his observations nearly seventy years ago, some time before Lord Byron's first visit to that part of the world; and we might extract a few incidents which would illustrate "Childe Harold" or the Eastern metrical romances of that poet. Space, however, does not allow us to dwell upon these topics, or Ali Pasha of Janina, or the Siege of Acre, or Lord Elgin's purchase of the relics of Athenian sculpture. Upon the author's discharge from the Turkish naval service he turned his face westward. Getting his passage from Smyrna to Malaga as supercargo of a merchant vessel, he arrived in Spain. Two years were passed in the exercise of his profession. He went to Madrid, then ruled by Godoy, the Queen's paramour, but soon to be made the seat of King Joseph Buonaparte. While dwelling there in 1806, the author received from home the news of his mother's death, with her request that he would take the English name of her maternal ancestors. This he did the more readily, as he was quite inclined to become an Englishman. We must do him the justice to remember that his native Italy, and nearly the whole of Continental Europe, was at that time enslaved by France. He went to Lisbon, and applied for employment as naval surgeon in the British fleet, a few months after the battle of Trafalgar. He was accepted, and thenceforth Dr. Granville was one of us, like many other clever and accomplished Italians whom we have gladly welcomed to England.

After a shipwreck on the Portuguese coast, and some adventures in naval warfare, Dr. Granville was sent to England. He was attached, during some months, to a squadron in the Downs looking out for French privateers. In 1809 he became a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and was also initiated into Freemasonry, in which he lived to attain a

high grade. In the same year he married a daughter of Mr. Joseph Kerr, of Blackheath. But his sea service was not yet done. He had to go to the West Indies in H.M.S. *Arachne*, from which he was transferred to the *Gloire*, and got some experience of yellow fever. On his return to England his wife's family affairs took him to Manchester, where he met that eminent chemist and philosopher Dalton, and joined the Literary and Philosophical Society. He also saw the Shakspeare acting of John Kemble, upon which he wrote some critical essays. His next passage of naval service, in 1812, was in the frigates *Maldstone* and *Swiftsure*, between Gibraltar and Port Mahon, cruising on the Mediterranean coasts of Spain. This was a dull blockading service, but he found some pleasant society at Port Mahon. Here was the Dowager Duchess of Orleans, widow of Philippe Egalité; Dr. Granville attended her Royal Highness, whose son, afterwards King Louis Philippe, he presently met at Palermo.

As a husband and father, he longed for a more settled life. This opportunity was granted him next year by his employment as a tutor of Mr. Hamilton's children in London. He taught them Latin in a conversational way, and by free reading of Terence, Livy, or Cicero; geometry, chemistry, and mechanics were the other parts of their instruction. Mr. Hamilton, at the same time, gave him remunerative occasional work as interpreter and translator for the Foreign Office; and he wrote for an Italian journal, published in London, articles encouraging the people of Italy to rise and cast off the French yoke. Meanwhile his medical studies and hospital practice were not neglected. He frequented the agreeable "open evenings" of learned company in the house of Sir Joseph Banks, and became an early member of the Royal Institution and of the Society of Arts. The Italian Opera, to which he was medical attendant, contributes pleasing reminiscences of Catalani and other great artists.

Several chapters are filled with the incidents of Dr. Granville's tour, in 1814, through the north of Italy, then freshly delivered from Napoleon, but only about to be worse enslaved by the Austrian domination. The British Government, it is too well known, failed to keep its promises of freedom and independence for the Italian nation. Buonaparte, though fallen, was at Elba, and had so many partisans among the Italian military men that the allies were easily persuaded it would not be safe to establish liberty in that country. The personal observations of Dr. Granville show the actual situation of affairs. He was an ardent Italian patriot, who even at that time, sixty years ago, upheld the House of Savoy and the military and administrative faculty of Piedmont, as the needful champion of Italian unity. In a letter addressed to Alexander I. of Russia, and published in three languages, he advocated the scheme of a national constitutional Monarchy, which was forwarded between 1843 and 1849 by Gioberti, Balbo, and Massimo D'Azeglio, under King Charles Albert, and was finally accomplished, under King Victor Emmanuel, by the daring genius of Cavour. When the Congress of Allied Powers, after the abdication of Napoleon at Fontainebleau, was disposing of the nations of Europe, Dr. Granville made an effort, by his personal agency, and with no commission from the Foreign Office, to stir up his countrymen to demand their independence. He at the same time revisited his old home at Milan, which he had not seen for eleven years, embraced his father, brothers, and sisters, and renewed many affectionate friendships in Lombardy, besides making new acquaintances in Bologna, Florence, and Leghorn. The account of these visits and conversations is extremely interesting, and presents to a reader who knows modern Italy, its politicians, scholars, men of letters, of science and art, not a few honoured examples of the last generation. Among those he met at Bologna were Cardinal Mezzofanti, the great linguist, and the beautiful and accomplished lady, Signora Martinetti, who then reigned over local society in that learned city. A quarrel with the Austrian officers, which was natural enough, compelled Dr. Granville to beat a hasty departure. He stopped on his way back at Geneva, where he visited Sir Humphrey and Lady Davy, with whom Faraday was then living. He there again met with the eloquent Madame de Stael, whom he rather wondered at than liked; and when staying in Paris, before his return to England, he also met Cuvier and Humboldt. He got back here some months previous to Napoleon's escape from Elba, of which he had forewarned his friend at our Foreign Office.

Dr. Granville, who was fully admitted into the College of Physicians in 1817, had already taken his place among the recognised members of his profession in London. He succeeded Sir Humphrey's brother, Dr. John Davy, as chemical lecturer at Hunter's Museum in Great Windmill-street, in connection with St. George's Hospital. The aged Court physician, Sir Walter Farquhar, a connection of Mr. Hamilton's by marriage, soon put Dr. Granville in the right path to a fashionable and lucrative business. By this eminent senior's advice, in 1816, he devoted himself at Paris to a thorough course of special instruction in obstetrical anatomy and surgery, and in the treatment of diseases peculiar to women and children. He describes his manner of attending lectures and taking notes among the other medical students of the Quartier Latin, with frank simplicity; and with equal candour owns the constant attention which he paid to private and social opportunities of self-advancement by cultivating the friendship of influential persons. In this respect he was still much indebted to the family of Mr. Hamilton, whose brother and nieces were then visiting Paris. Lord and Lady Ellenborough, too, with an introduction from Sir Walter Farquhar, availed themselves of Dr. Granville's aid to see much in the French capital. It offered him, at that period, the conversation or public instruction of many illustrious men—Cuvier, Arago, Gay Lussac, Thénard, Biot, Magendie, and Orfila, in the sciences of natural history, astronomy, chemistry, physiology, and medicine. Here, also, he witnessed some curious scenes. There was the deathbed of Madame de Stael, who would not believe that a person of her superior genius could ever die. The vast establishment for female lunatics at the Salpêtrière, then managed by Pinel and Esquirol, is the subject of an interesting sketch. Anecdotes of the state of Parisian society in the first years of the Restoration are mixed with those of a more special character.

Dr. Granville set up as a regular London physician, in Savile-row, in 1818, and was soon afterwards elected to the Royal Society. He might possibly, but for accidental absence from London, have saved the life of the Princess of Wales, or that of her babe, and so caused the British Crown to devolve upon other heads than those of William IV. and Queen Victoria. This splendid good fortune did not befall Dr. Granville. He first got appointed physician accoucheur to the Westminster Dispensary. He dressed then in the old-fashioned style, with hair-powder, square-cut clothes, frill, knee-breeches, black silk stockings, and silver shoe buckles. But, from first to last, his behaviour was that of a discreet and honourable man of the world. Being, at the same time, a man of general and professional ability, of exact and various knowledge, he won and kept, during forty years of continued activity, a high position amongst us. The amount saved from his earnings, he tells us, with agreeable simplicity, was above £80,000; and no doubt this money was fairly earned. Before quite settling down in London, however, Dr. Granville was twice again employed professionally on the Continent, upon one occasion attending the

invalid Lady Ellenborough and her family to Florence. He carried home diplomatic despatches of great urgency from Paris, racing across the Channel, and on the road to London, against the French Ambassador's courier. Both these journeys, which are very characteristic of the costly old methods of travelling, are described in a highly entertaining manner.

The first great and notable success of his professional career, in 1822, is related with equal animation, and the circumstances are touching. It was that of posting down to Wilton, beyond Salisbury, to save the life of the Countess of Pembroke, apparently dying in childbirth. Dr. Granville became famous in this department, but did not confine his practice to it. He contributed much to the medical literature of his day, editing more than one journal; he conducted a long discussion upon the quarantine laws, which led to their reform; he early introduced the medical use of prussic acid, or laurel water; and he did much other valuable work. A trip to St. Petersburg, in 1827, to attend Count Woronzow's family, furnished matter for a small book of Russian experiences. In 1833, when the cholera was in London, it seized Lord Palmerston, whose narrow escape was partly due to the author's treatment of him—applying a heated iron along the spine, followed by a mustard poultice over the bowels. Another distinguished patient of Dr. Granville, from 1833 to 1840, was Joseph Buonaparte, ex-King of Spain.

It was a discovery of some interest to Dr. Granville that his own Lombard family, that of Bozzi, was distantly connected by marriage with the Buonapartes of Corsica. The ex-King Joseph, under the name of Comte de Survilliers, lived near Regent's Park. We read how, on Dec. 2, 1839, Dr. Granville was an invited witness of a private interview between Joseph and his nephew, the late Emperor Napoleon III., then called Prince Louis Napoleon. The object for which the uncle had sent for Prince Louis Napoleon, on that occasion, was to reprove his rash attempt at Strasbourg. Dr. Granville noted down their conversation, which he reports, and his testimony contradicts the late Emperor's statements. It appears that Louis Napoleon then promised his uncle to refrain from like attempts in future; but he broke his promise at Boulogne after his uncle's departure to Germany. Dr. Granville's evidence is very circumstantial, and we have no doubt of its truth. The poor old uncle, ill at Wildbad, suffered a terrible fit of apoplexy when he heard of the Boulogne escapade.

Our review exceeds the usual length; but we do not enumerate all the actions and discussions of particular interest with which Dr. Granville was concerned. The Italian revolutions of 1848-9, and the war between Austria and Sardinia, called forth his ardent and consistent patriotism, as in 1814. He now published a series of letters to Lord Palmerston, zealously advocating the Piedmontese solution of the Italian problem. We could have wished that some information had been given by Miss Granville, in the chapter of her father's life subsequent to the interruption of his diary, concerning his sentiments in 1859 and 1860, when that question was happily solved by the policy of Cavour. Writing, indeed, but three years ago, Dr. Granville incidentally speaks of that great statesman with the highest praise, and regrets that Lord Palmerston did not appreciate his magnificent work in 1859. "But now," he exclaims, "there is a kingdom of Italy! Oh, the glorious change! Thanks to the Divine Disposer of events, and next to those staunch, inflexible, sharp-witted patriots, who knew how to bring about that which had so often been dreamt of before!" He rightly gives to the Turin statesman, Professor Gioberti, the credit of having been the first, after the disasters of 1830, to proclaim the true mode of achieving this result.

We must at length, and with some reluctance, part with Dr. Granville's memoirs. Among the topics they refer to are several others of much interest, the Metropolitan Drainage and Thames Embankment schemes, proposed by Martin, the painter; the German Spas of Kissingen and Gastein, compared with Buxton and others in this country; the Imperial family of Russia, some of whom he attended in 1849, and the death of Nicholas I., which Dr. Granville foretold, during the Crimean War. In a letter here printed, of July, 1853, he informed Lord Palmerston of the Czar's inherited tendency to insanity, which was not, perhaps, sufficiently considered by our Government. The closing years of Dr. Granville's life were passed in retirement and repose; but he was enabled, in extreme old age, to write this wonderfully fresh and vivid history of all that he had done and seen. It is a book of memories that will long keep their interest for many readers.

THE ROYAL INSTITUTION.

The following arrangements have been made for the lectures before Easter, 1875:—

The Christmas lectures, adapted to an educated juvenile auditory (beginning Dec. 29), will be given by the new Fullerian Professor of Chemistry, Dr. John Hall Gladstone, on the Voltaic Battery. He will unfold the principles involved in its construction, relate its history, exhibit its phenomena, and illustrate its numerous applications, especially in electrotyping and plating, the electric lamp, and the telegraph.

The following courses will succeed the Christmas lectures:—Before Easter, 1875. Tuesdays: Mr. E. Ray Lankester—six lectures on the Pedigree of the Animal Kingdom; Mr. Alfred H. Garrod—four lectures on Animal Locomotion, including Locomotion on Land, in the Air, and in Water. Thursdays: Professor P. M. Duncan—three lectures on the Grandeur of Physical Geography; Professor Tyndall—seven lectures on Subjects Connected with Electricity. Saturdays: Mr. Edward Dannreuther—two lectures on Mozart and Beethoven, with Pianoforte Illustrations; Mr. J. T. Wood—four lectures on the discovery of the Temple of Diana, and other Results of the Government Excavations at Ephesus; Professor W. K. Clifford—four lectures on the General Features of the History of Science.

The Friday evening meetings begin on Jan. 15, the opening discourse being by Professor Tyndall. Succeeding discourses will probably be given by Sir John Lubbock, Professor Huxley, Mr. James Dewar, Professor Frankland, Mr. F. W. Burton, Mr. R. Liebreich, Professor Abel, and Lord Rayleigh.

The Hon. Justice Grove, himself a distinguished worker in science, has recently presented to the institution a fine marble bust, by Mr. Durham, A.R.A., of the late Rev. John Barton, who, as honorary secretary for nearly seventeen years (1843-60), by his assiduous and disinterested services and devotion to scientific pursuits, gave a great impetus to the institution.

Dr. N. M. Adler, the Chief Rabbi, laid the foundation-stone of a new synagogue in Brighton last week, in the presence of a representative company of the Hebrew persuasion. The building will be Byzantine in style, and will accommodate 500 persons. Mr. T. Lanison is the architect.

Official statistics published show that the value of the rough mineral produce of the United Kingdom during the year 1873 was nearly 59½ millions sterling, of which more than 47½ millions was the value of upwards of 127 million tons of coal. Manufactured metals during the same period are set down at about 21½ millions.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE HON. G. S. STAFFORD JERNINGHAM.

The Hon. George Sulyarde Stafford Jerningham, C.B., late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Stockholm, died on the 18th inst. He was born Feb. 17, 1806, the third son of George William, eighth Lord Stafford, by Frances Henrietta, his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Edward Sulyarde, Esq., of Wetherden, Suffolk. For nearly fifty years he was attached to the diplomatic service, having joined the Embassy at St. Petersburg in March, 1826. He became Secretary of Legation at the Hague in 1833, at Turin in 1836, at Lisbon in 1837, and at Madrid in 1839. On several occasions he acted as Charge-d'Affaires. In 1849 he was appointed Secretary of Embassy to the Ottoman Porte, and in 1850 transferred to Paris. In 1854 he was accredited Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Wurtemberg, and in 1859 to the Court of Stockholm.

GENERAL SIR J. M. F. SMITH.

The death of General Sir John Mark Frederick Smith, K.H., F.R.S., in the eighty-second year of his age, is announced. The deceased General was the son of the late Major-General Sir J. F. S. Smith, and grand-nephew of Field Marshal Baron von Kalkreuth, formerly Commander-in-Chief of the Prussian army. He entered the corps of Royal Engineers as Second Lieutenant in 1805, served in 1809 at the siege of the castle of Ischia and the capture of that island and Procida, in the Bay of Naples. In 1810 he took part in action before the investment of the fortress of Santa Maura as Deputy-Assistant-Quartermaster-General, and at the siege and capture of the fortress as an officer of the Royal Engineers. He was for some years Inspector-General of Railways, and a Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber. In 1851 he was appointed to the command of the Royal Engineers at Portsmouth, and at Aldershot Camp in 1855. He was author of a translation of Marshal Marmont's work "On the Turkish Empire, with Military and Political Notes." Sir John, who was in politics a Conservative, was M.P. for Chatham in 1852-3, and again in 1857-65. His commissions bear date—as Captain, May 1, 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel, March 16, 1830; Colonel, Nov. 9, 1846; Major-General, June 20, 1854; Lieutenant-General, Oct. 25, 1859; Colonel Commandant, July 6, 1860; and General, Aug. 3, 1863.

SIR HENRY PRESCOTT.

Admiral Sir Henry Prescott, G.C.B., died at his residence, 7, Leinster-gardens, Hyde Park, on the 18th inst., in his ninety-second year. He was son of Admiral Isaac Prescott, by Mary, his wife, daughter of the late Rev. Richard Walter, and entered the Royal Navy in 1796. From that year to 1811 he saw much active service, principally in the Mediterranean, and was afterwards employed at the Channel Islands and in the Bay of Biscay. In 1801 he took part in the landing in Egypt, and in 1805 (as Lieutenant of the Eolus) was in Sir Richard Strachan's action with the ships that escaped from Trafalgar. From 1821 to 1825 he served in South America, and was Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Newfoundland from 1834 to 1841. For a few months, in 1847, he held office as a Junior Lord of the Admiralty; and was appointed, from 1847 to 1852, Admiral Superintendent of Portsmouth Dockyard. He became an Admiral in 1860, and the same year obtained his service pension. Admiral Prescott was nominated K.C.B. in 1856, and G.C.B. in 1869. He married, in 1815, Mary Anne Charlotte, eldest daughter of Vice-Admiral Philip D'Auvergne, who is described in the obituary notice of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1816, as "Prince de Bouillon, many years commander-in-chief on the Guernsey and Jersey station," and whose most remarkable career, which raised him at one time almost to the rank of Royalty, forms a chapter in Sir Bernard Burke's "Vicissitudes of Families."

MR. DERING.

Edward Cholmeley Dering, Esq., D.L., eldest son and heir-apparent of Sir Edward Cholmeley Dering, Bart., died on the 17th inst. He was born July 31, 1833, and served in the 85th and 44th Regiments. He married, Oct. 29, 1861, Viscountess Forth, eldest daughter of the Hon. Adolphus Capel, but had no issue. By his death the heirship to one of the oldest baronetcies and one of the oldest Saxon families in England devolves on his brother, Henry Neville Dering, Secretary of Legation.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.

We learn from the *Canadian News* that a conference of delegates from the Provincial Governments of Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick was held at Ottawa on Nov. 4 and 5, at the official residence of the Hon. M. Letellier St. Just, the Minister of Agriculture. There were present the Hon. the Treasurers of Ontario and Quebec, the Premier and Attorney-General of Nova Scotia, and the Commissioner of Crown Lands representing New Brunswick. The Premier of the Dominion, Mr. Cartwright, the Finance Minister, and other members of the Government, and the Agent-General, Mr. Jenkins, M.P., were also present.

It is understood generally that the special agencies in Great Britain and on the Continent of the various Canadian provinces are to be abolished, and that the Dominion Government will undertake the entire charge and supervision of emigration to Canada through its Minister of Agriculture. It would appear that provincial departments are to be established in the office of the Dominion agency in London, the head-clerks of which will be appointed by their respective Governments, whom they will thus in a certain sense represent, but they are to be placed under the supervision of the Agent-General. While the interests of each province are carefully guarded by their representative in the general agency, Canada will exhibit to the British public but one front and but one responsible representative, the Agent-General.

The *Canadian News* states further that Mr. Jenkins will find himself at the head of a department which might vie with some of the Imperial departments in the importance and extent of its duties. It would be an analogous case were the various agencies of the Australian colonies, influential as they are, to be similarly united in one office under one head.

The Company of Grocers has voted £100 in aid of the Palestine Exploration Fund.

Longhorn cattle, of which we have occasionally given portraits, are again becoming one of the fancy breeds of cattle. At Mr. Chapman's sale at Upton, near Nuneaton, a year ago, fourteen heifers of the longhorn breed averaged between £40 and £50. The admirers of this breed say that they are very hardy and docile, giving rich milk like the Alderney, and when well fed making beef as prime as the best of other breeds. In addition to these useful qualities, their long horns, sometimes measuring from seven to eight feet, mark them as well suited to be ornamental stock in the parks of our nobility. The admirers of this breed will be able to select some good specimens at Birmingham show, on the 30th inst. (being the first day of the great cattle show), when several select heifers, the property of Mr. R. H. Chapman, are to be sold by auction.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

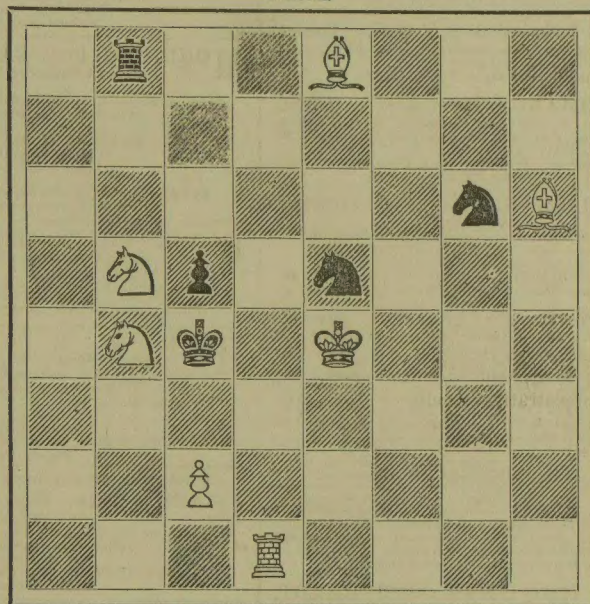
All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

PECKANIFF.—We did not receive the letter referred to. The changes you propose, though good in themselves, would, we fear, never become popular.
J G C.—If it proves to be sound it shall have a place anon.
F H B.—The problems, we are sorry to say, are not up to our standard.
MISS JANE D.—We believe he composed one problem.
NOVALESIS.—A dual mate is where White, in reply to one of Black's moves, has the choice of two distinct lines of play, both of which lead to mate in the same number of moves.
O CUTHBERT.—Much too easy, we regret to say.
L J N D.—The position shall be examined.
A SCHLEUSNER.—A neat position; but the key-move, we are afraid, is somewhat too obvious. The other problem, in two moves, shall appear.
CARL KOBELL and R M C.—The solution will not do.
ETONIAN.—The positions shall be examined. The solution is wrong.
H R V.—There is no mate as you propose, if Black play, 1. P to Kt 7th, and 2. K takes Kt. E H and I S T.—But how do you proceed if Black play 1. P to Kt 7th?
BEN REYDING.—There is no mate, we believe, if Black play, 1. K to K 6th, and 2. P to Q Kt 7th.
W AIREY, E H H V, and J G.—How do you propose to mate if Black move R to R sq?
P A.—Look again.—The Rook does not mate at all.
E OBERMAN.—You have omitted to take into consideration Black's defence of 1. P to Kt 7th.
I ASKE.—But what of 2. K to Q 4th?
Dr G Thompson and W S B.—In reply to 1. Q to K 7th, Black can play 1. R takes P.
PROBLEM No. 1603.—Additional correct solutions received from Peckaniff, D G H P, W Fildayson, S D G, Cyuri, S J G F, Inagu, W W Marshall, Dr G Thompson, J G.
PROBLEM No. 1604.—Correct solutions received from Olive Groskey, Lakeshead, Kalaf, W F Payne, Cant. Paul Fry, J G C, H Schleusner, Miss Jane D, W F R W S, Cantab. W A S, James, Ralph H, W L, S T P, P A, J G S, W R, T A C, Trinity College, Pettit and Randolph.

PROBLEM No. 1606.

By Mr. P. T. DUFFY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

MATCH BETWEEN MESSRS. WISKER AND MACDONNELL.

The following Games were played in the Match now pending between Messrs. WISKER and MACDONNELL.—(Evans's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. M.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	BLACK (Mr. M.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	17.	B takes K Kt
2. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	18. R takes B	B to K Kt 5th
3. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 4th	19. Q takes B	Kt takes R
4. P to Q Kt 4th	B takes Kt P	20. Q to R 5th	Kt to Q 6th
5. P to Q B 3rd	B to Q B 4th	21. Kt to K 4th	P to K B 3rd
6. Castles	P to Q 3rd		
7. P to Q 4th	P takes P		
8. P takes P	B to Kt 3rd		
9. P to Q 5th	Kt to Q R 4th		
10. B to Q Kt 2nd	Kt to K 2nd		
11. B to Q 3rd	Castles		
12. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q B 4th		

Up to this point the game is conducted in strict accordance with the received theory of the opening. Here, however, Black is guilty of a slip, from the effects of which he never recovers. The correct move at this point is 12. Kt to K Kt 3rd.

13. P to K 5th

The coup fute; securing an open diagonal for both the Bishops.

13.	P takes P
14. Kt takes P	Kt to K Kt 3rd
	He has, apparently, no better move.
15. Q to K R 5th	P to Q B 5th
16. B to Q B 2nd	

This is better than capturing the Pawn with Knight, as in that case Black would have taken Knight with Knight, and then played 16. Q to K R 5th.

16.	B to Q 5th
17. Q R to K sq	

We should have preferred 17. Kt to K B 3rd at this point. The move in the text is somewhat hazardous, as it costs the "exchange," though it yields White a fine position in return.

and White mates in seven more moves.

Between the same Players.—(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)	WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Mr. W.)
1. P to K B 4th	P to K 4th	22.	Kt to K 2nd
2. P to K 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd	23. Kt to Q B 2nd	P to K Kt 4th
3. Kt to K B 3rd	B to K Kt 2nd	24. P takes P	
4. B to K 2nd	P to Q B 4th		
5. Castles	Kt to Q B 3rd		
6. Q to K sq	Q to Q Kt 3rd		
7. Kt to Q K 3rd			

White has not played the opening with his usual judgment. This unhappy Knight, for example, never comes into play until the game is lost.

7.	Kt to K R 3rd
8. K to R sq	P to Q R 3rd
9. R to Q Kt sq	Q to Q B 2nd
10. P to Q Kt 3rd	Castles
11. B to Q Kt 2nd	P to Q Kt 4th
12. B takes B	K takes B
13. R to Q B sq	P to K B 3rd

Far better than 13. Q to Q R 4th, which would have won a Pawn, but at the cost of putting the Queen out of play for many moves.

14. P to K R 3rd	P to K 4th
15. Kt to K R 2nd	B to Q Kt 2nd
16. P to Q B 3rd	Q R to K sq
17. Q to K B 2nd	Kt to K B 4th
18. P to K Kt 4th	Kt to Q 3rd
19. B to K B 3rd	P takes P
20. P takes P	Kt to K 5th
21. B takes Kt	P takes B
22. K to Kt sq	

He obviously cannot capture the Q B P in safety, on account of P to K 6th.

26. P to Q Kt 4th	R to K B 6th
	A deadly stroke.
27. R takes R	
	He has no better resource. If 27. Kt takes R, Black replies with 27. Q to K Kt 6th (ch), and 28. P takes R, and wins.
27.	P takes R
28. Q to K B 2nd	
	Had he captured the Rook with Queen, White would clearly have won in a few moves—e.g.,
28. Q takes R	Q to K Kt 6th (ch)
29. K to B sq	P to Kt 7th (ch)
30. K to K sq	P to B 7th (ch)
31. K to Q sq	B to B 6th (ch)
32. K takes B	Q takes Kt (ch) and wins.
29.	R to K 7th
29. Kt to Q 4th	P takes Kt,
	and White resigned.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

THE MATCH BETWEEN MESSRS. WISKER AND MACDONNELL.—The score in the match, at the time we go to press, stands as under:—Mr. Wisker, 5; Mr. Macdonnell, 3; drawn, 4.

NEW CHESS CLUB.—It is proposed to form a new chess club, to be held at Veglio and Co.'s Restaurant, 314 and 316, Euston-road. A general meeting will be held on Dec. 1, at eight p.m., for the enrolment of members and other business. Mr. J. Tarrant is hon. sec.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The confirmation, under seal of the Commissariat of Forfar, of the trust disposition, and settlement, dated Dec. 9, 1872, with a codicil dated Jan. 9, 1873, of the Right Hon. Fox Maule Ramsay, Earl of Dalhousie, Baron Panmure, who died at Brechin Castle, Forfarshire, on July 6 last, granted to Major Thomas Young, George Dalhousie Ramsay, the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird, M.P., Thomas Brodie, and John Shiell, the executors nominate, was sealed at the principal registry of her Majesty's Court of Probate in England on the 12th inst., the inventory of the personal effects in Scotland and England amounting to £198,453 8s.

The will, dated March 18, 1864, of Maria Margareta, Baroness Talbot de Malahide, who died at Malahide Castle, in Ireland, on Aug. 9 last, was proved in London, on the 11th inst., by her husband, the Right Hon. James, Lord Talbot de Malahide, the sole executor, under a nominal sum. The deceased by her will appoints a certain sum of £10,000 under her marriage settlement to her said husband for life, and at his death to all her children except the then two eldest.

The will and codicil, dated Aug. 5, 1873, and March 5, 1874, of George Ellis, late of King's-road, Clapham Park, who died on the 9th ult., were proved on the 10th inst. by Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth Ellis, the widow, the Rev. John Henry Ellis, the son, John Charles Sharpe, and John Ralph Grimes, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £140,000. The testator bequeaths to each of his executors £200; to Benjamin Sharpe, £100; to Eleanor Smith, £300; to his said son, £18,000; to his two daughters, Georgiana Elizabeth Ellis and Alice Prowde Ellis, £12,000 each; to his wife, all his household furniture, carriages, &c., and £3000 absolutely, he also gives her his residence for life and the income of the remainder of his property so long as she remains unmarried. At her death the house at Clapham Park goes to testator's son, and on her death or marriage again one half of the residue goes to the son and the other half between the two daughters.

The will, dated July 6 last, of William Lambert, late of Wood House, Finchley, and of Wyeseide House, Monmouth, who died on the 4th ult., was proved on the 5th inst. by Mrs. Margaret Collins Lambert, the widow, Thomas Hakewill, and Charles Morgan, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £50,000. The testator directs the following legacies to be paid at the death of his wife, but with her written consent they may be paid in her lifetime, viz.:—To Charles Morgan, £3000; for the repair of St. Mary's Church, Monmouth, £500; to the Monmouth Hospital, £500; to the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Mary's Church, Monmouth, upon trust, to apply the dividends, on Christmas Eve, for the benefit of poor persons of Wyeseide-ward, Monmouth, £300; to his wife's maid, £500; to his butler, £300; and to his coachman and housemaid, £100 each; subject to these legacies, testatrix's wife takes the whole interest in his property by his death.

The will, dated June 17 last, of Frederick Earnshaw Marshall, of Penwortham Hall, near Preston, Lancashire, who died on Aug. 13, was proved on the 2nd inst. by John Marshall, William Marshall, and the Rev. Thomas Ross Finch, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £30,000. The testator bequeaths to Hannah Maria Carlisle an annuity of £150; to Elizabeth Carlisle one of £25; to Fanny Wray his gold watch and chain and a legacy of £1000; and to Thomas Porter £100; Penwortham Hall and all his real estate testator devises to the use of his brother John for life, with remainder to his brother William for life, and subsequently to his sister Mrs. Finch, her husband, and children. The residue of his personal estate is left upon similar trusts.

The will, dated Oct. 5, 1870, of Captain William Wrey Hartopp, of the Royal Horse Guards Blue, late of Peneley Lodge, Beaulieu, Southampton, and of No. 8, Albert-terrace, Hyde Park, who died July 20 last, was proved on the 5th inst. by Thomas Edward Howe, the acting executor, under £2000. Testator leaves all his real and personal estate to his wife, Lina.

The will, dated April 2, 1857, of the Rev. Andrew Cassels, Vicar of Batley, Yorkshire, who died at Edinburgh, on Aug. 12 last, was proved on the 3rd inst. by Charles Arthur Tennant and William Anderson, jun., M.D., the surviving executors, the personalty in the United Kingdom being sworn under £10,000. The testator leaves all his real and personal estate to his wife for life and at her death to all his children.

The prizes and certificates gained by the Oxford students in the late science and art examination were distributed on Saturday last, in the Townhall, in the presence of a large assemblage of persons. The chair was taken by the Dean of Christ Church.—At the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Government School of Art and Science at Reading, last week, Mr. Forsyth, Q.C., M.P., delivered the annual address.

Numerous accidents are reported in consequence of the dense fog which prevailed at the beginning of the week. Several persons were run over in the streets of London. Railway collisions occurred on various lines—one at Liverpool, two at Wolverhampton, and another near Newport, in South Wales. No lives were lost, but many passengers sustained superficial injuries. On the North London Railway a man laying fog-signals was run over and killed.

At the eighth annual meeting of the Warwickshire Chamber of Agriculture, held last Saturday, Lord Willoughby de Broke was chosen chairman for the ensuing year, and Mr. Robbins, of Kenilworth, vice-chairman. Several speakers urged the importance of landlords building good cottages for labourers, and providing proper accommodation for the rearing and fattening of stock, without which it was declared to be nearly impossible for tenant farmers to live.

The first cattle-show of the amalgamated societies of Manchester and Salford was held at the Pomona Palace and Gardens at Old Trafford, near Manchester, last Saturday. Nearly £2000 was offered in prizes, and the value of the stock and implements exhibited was estimated at £300,000. The chief prize offered was a silver cup, valued at 50 gs., "for the best cow or heifer of any breed in the show," as an extra prize. This was taken by Mr. Thos. Slatter, of Stand Hall, Manchester, for a magnificent cross-bred cow.

The *Daily News* occasionally publishes a sheet of extraordinary size. Speaking of its number of Saturday last, it says:—"This issue was, so far as we know, in respect of breadth, length, and solid contents the largest newspaper without a supplement ever published. Its printed matter was nearly equal to that contained in three numbers of the *Cornhill* or the *Gentleman's Magazine*, was more than is contained in the *Edinburgh Review* or the *Quarterly*, and exceeded the proportions of two volumes of the average novel. The pieces of metal lying within the sixty-four columns were 1,044,000 in number. The paper on which it was printed was rolled on cylinders, a single one of which holds four and a half miles in length; each copy was delivered from the machine printed on both sides and duly cut from the cylindrical web of paper; and the whole edition was printed on five of the Walter machines at the rate of 50,000 copies an hour."

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